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25p

Last-ditch bid by Kohl to woo Thatcher

UK offered more cash to agree EEC reforms

From Richard Owen, Brussels

West Germany launched an eleventh-hour move last night to salvage a compromise farm reform deal from the crisis-torn special EEC summit here.

With the meeting on the verge of collapse, Bonn — whose Chancellor Helmut Kohl is in the chair — made a final effort to persuade Mrs Thatcher to accept a deal on Community agriculture finance.

The Prime Minister was offered a recalculation of the British budget rebate which, West German officials said, would be favourable to the UK. But she continued to stand resolutely against any measures which would allow EEC farm spending to continue to rocket out of control.

However, several European leaders, including Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, believed that despite the deadlock the Community was moving towards a package which Mrs Thatcher might be able to accept.

But she maintained that the summit had been "talking a lot of generalities", and stated: "Now we are getting down to facts and figures. We came here to get agricultural spending under control." Diplomats said that the summit had seen a direct and damaging clash between Britain and France, with the French taking an uncompromising line against farm cuts.

Summit background 6
Photograph 6

There were signs that the Dutch were moving to join the majority, leaving Mrs Thatcher isolated 11-1, as in previous summits.

The deadlock threatens the EEC with bankruptcy despite months of intense negotiation culminating in this week's summit. Diplomats said that failure to agree would also be a severe blow to the very credibility of European decision-making processes — which had repeatedly failed.

The stalemate was a bitter disappointment for Chancellor Kohl, with West Germany holding the Community presidency. Last night he held talks to try to resolve the impasse with Mrs Thatcher, Dr Ruud Lubbers, the Dutch Prime Minister, and M Jacques Délors, the President of the European Commission. Officials said Herr Kohl had "taken an enormous gamble" by calling the special meeting after the failure of the December summit in Copenhagen.

The Chancellor told the weary leaders that there was a 10-2 deadlock. Some officials criticized Herr Kohl's handling of the summit, saying he had allowed the meeting to drift at crucial moments and had in effect sided with the hard-line pro-farming lobby position taken by M Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister.

France holds presidential elections in April and West Germany, which, like the French, has powerful farming interests, faces local elections in March and in May. "There has been a lot of electioneering going on," one British official said angrily.

Some officials said Bonn had used the presidency to isolate Britain in order to blame it for the stalemate when it became clear the summit was running into difficulties.

Yesterday Herr Kohl held bilateral talks with several key leaders, including Mrs Thatcher, after EEC officials had failed to produce a satisfactory overnight compromise document. But the final draft tabled late in the day was regarded by Britain as a "regressive move" on almost all subjects contained in the proposed reform package first put forward by M Délors a year ago.

On regional aid, the draft document — which in a moment of farce West Germany said was a Commission proposal while the Commission insisted it was a presidency document — suggested an increase of funds for the poorer south of 80 per cent, instead of the 50 to 60 per cent Britain and The Netherlands both wanted, with a doubling by 1992. The proposal also included a level of farm spending far above that acceptable to Britain.

But it was agriculture which again proved to be the main sticking point, with Bonn accepting a French demand for a limit on cereals of 160 million tonnes, far above the 155-million tonne ceiling set by Britain, with price cuts in cereals of 3 per cent per annum rather than the 9 per cent over three years sought by Britain. "We have a common line with France," a Kohl spokesman said.

A distressed M Délors said that, without an agreement on financing, the EEC would be "dormant" until the next summit at Hanover in June, at the end of the West German presidency. Officials said that the very future of the Délors package was in doubt, a prospect which British officials seemed to face with equanimity.

The EEC is left with no budget for 1988 because of the crisis, and is heading for bankruptcy by the summer.

Dole finds powerful ally in former Nato chief



General Haig, right, and Senator Dole smiling about their new-found alliance, announced in New Hampshire yesterday.

Haig in farewell attack on Bush

From Michael Binyon
Manchester
New Hampshire

General Alexander Haig yesterday ran up the white flag. The former US Secretary of State and Nato Supreme Commander, with only negligible support here and in Iowa, pulled out of the Republican presidential race and urged voters to back Senator Robert Dole instead.

At the same time he launched a devastating attack on Vice-President George Bush, saying he was not electable. The next President should not be a man who simply offers "more of the same". Mr Dole stood "head and shoulders" above Mr Bush in leadership, ability to tackle the "mindless deficit" and deal "eyeball-to-eyeball" with the Russians.

Kemp dented 6
Frank Johnson 12

Insisting he had nothing personal against Mr Bush, General Haig gave a withering assessment of his role in office, and by implication of the Reagan Administration. Mr Bush has been "less than forthright" in his discussion of alleged links to General Manuel Noriega of Panama. He did not have the leadership to get America out of the "mess" it was now in. And instead of having the "toughness" to make tough decisions during the past seven years, he had "just been there".

Asked if that meant Mr Bush had contributed little to the Administration, General Haig replied tartly: "I think he's been there. Period." Did he think the Vice-President electable? "No, frankly I do not." General Haig said he had withdrawn now because to continue his campaign with little money or support would be mere arrogance.

He insisted he had asked nothing from Mr Dole when he told him of his decision on Wednesday, and did not seek any public office for himself.

He recognized that he had been the "darkest of dark horses". General Haig's bitter dislike of Mr Bush has long been known, and blocking him was said to be the main reason why he entered the race. And in criticism clearly aimed at Mr Bush's campaign claims, the 63-year-old general said the 1988 election should not be about "business as usual" in America. "Our next President should not be a man who offers simply more of the same." The country needed a leader who truly reflected the mainstream values — including hard work, moral convic-

Continued on page 24, col 3

14% offer thrown out by Land Rover men

By Tim Jones and Roland Rudd

More than 6,000 Land-Rover workers yesterday threatened to bring further chaos to the motor industry when they voted for industrial action after rejecting a two-year pay deal worth 14 per cent.

The workers made the decision in spite of receiving personal letters from Mr Tony Gilroy, the company's managing director that there would be no more money on the table "whatever the ballot result".

The move came as shop stewards of Ford's biggest union, the Transport and General Workers, made it clear they were well placed financially for a "long and damaging strike".

Today workers at Vauxhall's will announce the result of their ballot on a two-year pay deal worth between 11.8 and 14.6 per cent. A close vote is expected.

At the end of the first full week of the Ford strike, which is costing the company £23 million a day, Mr Mick Murphy, the unions' chief negotiator, said the effects of the strike had been "crippling" on the company's European production and said the transport union was ready for a three-month strike ifnecessary.

Mr Murphy said the company had plans to cut the workforce by 3,000.

After the rejection of the Land-Rover offer by 66 per cent of the workforce, leaders of the six unions involved will meet on Monday to plan the next move.

Production at Land-Rover's Birmingham plant is running at about 1,000 vehicles a week

● Car production in Britain in January of 107,000 vehicles was the highest for nine years after the inclusion for the first time of figures from the Nissan plant in Sunderland.



Mr Mick Murphy: Ready for a long strike.

Inflation rate drops to 15-month low of 3.3%

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The rate of inflation fell to a 15-month low of 3.3 per cent last month as retailers cut prices sharply in the January sales. But the fall only added to official anxieties about pay trends.

The inflation rate for the 12 months to January was sharply down on the 3.7 per cent in December, and represented the third successive monthly fall.

It came as a surprise in the City, where worries about a rise in inflation have recently dominated market sentiment.

But Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Employment, said it was vital that pay settlements reflect the "good news" on inflation. On latest figures, average earnings are rising by 8.25 per cent a year, nearly 5 per cent more than the rate of inflation.

The worry is that this strong growth in real incomes will suck in imports at a rate that will produce a sharp deterioration in the balance of payments in coming months.

"Over the 12 months to January an increase in gross earnings of only 1.4 per cent would have been enough to compensate for price increases," Mr Fowler said, basing his statement on the rise in the Government's tax-and-price index, which takes into account income tax reductions as well as price increases.

Dollar surges 25

"Pay negotiators should moderate claims and ensure that our economy stays in good health and continues to expand," he said.

The index of retail prices was unchanged between December and January at 103.3 (January 1987=100), having fallen by 0.1 per cent in December.

Department of Employment officials said winter sales in the high streets reduced prices of clothing, footwear and household durables. In addition, the mild weather may have helped to keep down seasonal food prices — unlike in January last year, when severe winter weather produced a sharp rise in food prices.

Lower mortgage rates also helped to keep down inflation, as the smaller building societies fell into line with the December 1 reduction in rates by the leading mortgage lenders.

City analysts were encouraged by the inflation figures. Mr Keith Skeoch, an economist at James Capel, the broker, said: "For the next six to nine months inflation will remain very low."

Dr Gerard Lyons, economist at SBCI Savory Milln, said the figures were good, but gave a warning that inflation worries in the City were unlikely to disappear.

Last month's inflation rate was the lowest since October 1986.

Department of Employment comparisons show that Britain's inflation rate is below the 4 per cent average for the Western industrialized countries of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, and close to the European Community average of 3.2 per cent.

RETAIL PRICE INDEX

	*Index	% change 1 month	% change 12 months
August	102.1	0.3	4.4
Sept	102.4	0.3	4.2
Oct	102.9	0.5	4.5
Nov	103.4	0.5	4.1
Dec	103.3	-0.1	3.7
Jan	103.3	0.0	3.3

*(Index Jan 87 = 100) Source: Department of Employment

LESSONS FOR LIFE

● The questions every school leaver should be able to answer and the books all children should read are included in a major series starting on Tuesday, which also hears views from across the education divide.

Portfolio
PLUS NEW
Accumulator

With no daily winner yesterday, Portfolio Accumulator reaches £48,000 and there is £8,000 to be won today.

IN PART 2

Gas attack

An unpublished EEC report describes British Gas's pricing policy as "wholly unacceptable and violently anti-competitive", City sources claimed ..... Page 25

Clough stays

Brian Clough said he would not resign as manager of Nottingham Forest after the club's refusal to let him manage Wales on a part-time basis ..... Page 42

Drugs inquiry

The International Amateur Athletic Federation is to investigate the commitment of its member national federations towards anti-drugs legislation ..... Page 42

Tax trap

Married couples may be caught in an unexpected mortgage tax relief trap
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Talks fail to heal 'shoot to kill' rift

From Michael Dynes, Brussels

The Irish Prime Minister, Mr Charles Haughey, yesterday rejected Britain's attitude on the Northern Ireland "shoot to kill" affair as unsatisfactory.

Hopes of repairing one of the worst rifts in Anglo-Irish relations for 15 years received a setback after a frosty exchange of views between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Haughey on the decision not to prosecute police officers allegedly involved.

In talks during the EEC summit meeting in Brussels described by British officials as "calm and dignified" the Prime Minister expressed her desire for the continuation of cross-border security co-operation.

Mrs Thatcher told Mr Haughey that she recognized the deep emotions felt by people in the Irish Republic over the decision by the Attorney General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, not to prosecute members of the RUC, but she insisted that the Government could not intervene in the independent workings of the British legal system.

Mr Haughey said that he did not regard Britain's response to Ireland's concern over the Attorney General's decision as "satisfactory".

The failure of the two Governments to issue a joint statement after their meeting is seen here as a reflection of the "grave and serious" tensions that now exist between Dublin and London.

● Mr John Stalker's removal from the Northern Ireland investigation was yesterday condemned by the Police Review as politically inept.

The magazine said that "the best possible construction that can be placed on the subsequent attempts to discredit him is that they were forced on the police service by political expediency".

Leading article, page 13

Anger as Heysel 18 stay in prison

By David Sapsted

Lawyers and parents of the 25 Liverpool football supporters facing manslaughter charges arising out of the Heysel Stadium riot branded Belgian court proceedings "farcical" last night.

They vented their anger after 18 of the men were freed by a Belgian judge but told they would have to stay in prison pending an appeal against the decision.

Sir Harry Livermore, the Merseyside solicitor representing 14 of the accused, said that the case had become so confused that nobody was sure when a trial would be held, especially as the defence had not seen any of the 47,000 pages of prosecution evidence thought to exist.

"The situation really has reached the state of farce. When the chaps were extradited almost six months ago, we were promised a speedy trial by the Belgian Ministry of Justice. Most of them have been in prison ever since and, after the latest turn of events, we really do not what is happening," Sir Harry said.

Mr Rex Makin, another solicitor involved in the case, described yesterday's events in Brussels as "a blot on European justice".

He said: "These lads are being treated like a pack of cards. Every time the dealer changes, they get a different hand. The whole thing is outrageous."

No reason for the release decision on the 18 yesterday was given. Defence lawyers had made a routine, monthly appeal against their detention and, to the lawyers' surprise, the judge decided the men should be freed, and required to lodge deposits, equivalent to bail, of between £850 and £3,200.

Continued on page 24, col 6

Official MI5 book is shelved to spare blushes

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The Government has quietly shelved an officially approved book about MI5's operations in the Second World War, written by a former deputy director-general of the Security Service, because of potential embarrassment in its long-running legal battle over the Spycatcher affair.

The authors of the book, Security and Counter Intelligence, Mr Anthony Simkins, formerly of MI5, and Professor Sir Francis (Harry) Hinsley, an official historian on British Intelligence, have not been told when "or whether" it will be published. It was finished last summer.

According to sources, the Government wants to keep the book under wraps while legal action continues over Spycatcher, written by the former MI5 officer, Mr Peter Wright.

Publication of a Cabinet Office-approved book on MI5 by another "insider" at a time when the Government is fighting to uphold the principle of life-long confidentiality among former members of the Intelligence Services, could cause further political embarrassment.

Mr Simkins, aged 75, left MI5 in 1971 after being deputy director-general for six years. Between 1956-65, he was head of "C" branch responsible for protective security, advising Whitehall and the defence industry on security matters. The director-general of MI5 during that period was Sir Roger Hollis, later to come under suspicion of being a Soviet spy.

Mr Simkins' book is based on his official "in house" record of MI5 counter-intelligence operations during the Second World War.

Yesterday the Cabinet Office admitted: "No decision has been made with regard to publication of this book."

Professor Hinsley, Master of St John's College, Cambridge, said he was "mystified" by the Government's action, especially after permission had been given by the Cabinet Office historical branch to include a footnote about the book in his latest volume of British Intelligence in the Second World War which is about to be published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

Mr Simkins, who was working in the Cabinet Office historical branch, was also involved in Professor Hinsley's latest and final volume on British intelligence, following the death of one of the team involved in the previous volumes.

The footnote makes a brief reference to the "forthcoming book" by Mr Simkins and Professor Hinsley.

Professor Hinsley said yesterday: "We were given permission to say that it was forthcoming, but we don't know when or even whether the book will be published.

"We don't know what is going to happen. But there has been so much fuss about MI5 that there may be some blocking of the book."

Continued on page 24, col 1



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NEWS ROUNDUP

Jaguar to recall 32,000 XJ6 cars

Jaguar is to recall all its latest XJ6 saloon models after discovering faulty suspension bolts.

Last May 4,800 Jaguars were recalled to rectify a brake fault. Now 32,000 cars worldwide will have to be returned to dealers to have the faulty bolts replaced. In a few cases the bolts have broken but the company says there have been no accidents.

Jaguar said: "If the bolts fail, the car settles on to the bump stop on one side. No loss of steering or braking control occurs."

Any recall for a safety part is damaging for a car maker. A year ago Mercedes owned up to faults with a new model after German taxi drivers complained bitterly that the once legendary reliability of the make had slipped.

100-year cash wait

Bequests in a rector's will are to be paid out more than 100 years after he died.

Canon Frederick Fitzgerald of Beckingham, near Newark, Nottinghamshire, who died in 1886, left sums of up to £50 each to several people including a male servant, but his estate contained too little money to pay them.

Now extra money has come into it from another will, and solicitors in Oldham, Greater Manchester, are trying to trace the beneficiaries' descendants. They said interest for 100 years had not yet been calculated.

Murder inquiry

A man is being questioned by the police after the disappearance of Miss Helen McCourt, aged 22, at Billinge, Lancashire, on Monday.

Chief Supt Eddie Alldred, who is leading the inquiry, said: "Because of information we have received, we now have grave doubts about the safety of this girl. We fear she may have been abducted and murdered."

The police believe that the body of Miss McCourt, an insurance clerk, who disappeared 300 yards from her home after catching a bus from St Helens, may have been buried in a local quarry.

IRA prisoner weds

The wedding of a convicted IRA bomber in a maximum security prison was attended yesterday by the MP leading a campaign to free him.

Mr Jeremy Corbyn, Labour MP for Islington North, travelled to Long Lartin prison, near Evesham, Hereford and Worcester to see Paul Hill, aged 33, who is serving nine life sentences for the Guildford and Woolwich pub bombings, marry Miss Marion Serravalli in the prison's Roman Catholic chapel.

Mr Corbyn, who has tabled a Commons motion congratulating the couple on their wedding, said: "I have been visiting Paul for four years because he comes from my constituency and I'm convinced he's innocent".

Anderton talks off

A special police authority disciplinary meeting at which Mr James Anderton, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, was to be asked to explain a comment he had made in an interview was called off yesterday.

Mr Anderton had said in the interview with a women's magazine that criminals should be flogged.

Mr Stephen Murphy, chairman of Greater Manchester police authority, said he had asked Mr Anderton not to attend.

The committeedecided to await observations from the Home Office.

Boost for tenants

The Government is to allow tenants to sit on the boards of housing action trusts being set up in run-down city areas to take over housing duties from local councils.

Six action trusts, one of them in London, are expected to be in the first batch to be announced by the Government after the passage of the Housing Bill, now in its Commons committee stage.

Mr William Waldegrave, the Minister for Housing, is resisting Opposition demands for the management boards to be approved by local authorities.

Art treasures charge

A former teacher suffering from Aids was charged yesterday in connection with a £1 million hoard of stolen art treasures and antiques recovered by police at a house in London.

Mr Richard Jeakins, aged 44, of Princes Way, Southfields, south London, was remanded in custody at Horseferry Road Court, in spite of a plea for bail on compassionate grounds. Mr Francis Sheridan, for Mr Jeakins, said his client had Aids and was "virtually a leper in custody" confined to a prison hospital because other prisoners did not wish to mix with him.

Mr Jeakins faces charges of stealing treasures worth £73,000 from the Victoria and Albert Museum on dates going back eight years.

Executive council election of TGWU called into question

Union leaders demand inquiry into ballot

By Roland Rudd

Senior trade union officials last night called for a full inquiry into the election for the executive of Britain's biggest trade union after allegations of ballot irregularities that could result in the disqualification of one or more candidates.

Members of the Transport and General Workers' Union finished voting last week for a new general executive council, which wields a strong influence over the Labour Party with a block vote of 1,250,000.

The 39-strong executive is now ruled by a coalition of soft-left and centre-right members. It staunchly backs Mr Neil Kinnock's plans to overhaul Labour's policy before the next election. Any change in its make-up could remove that support.

The allegations centre arround voting for the union's London-based Region One. Because of its large membership of 350,000 the outcome could have serious consequences on the overall result.

Mr Peter Hagger, a leading member of the Communist Campaign Group, which is planning to set up a rival Stalinist Communist Party to the Communist Party of Great Britain, and Mr Dominic Rohan, the outgoing chairman of Region One, were employed by the region in the week before Christmas to help with the administration of the election.

For their work, both men received a £23-a-day "lost time payment" for their work, which some members believe included sending unnumbered ballot papers to branches. Union press spokesmen yesterday denied that either Mr Hagger or Mr Rohan were allowed to handle ballot papers.

Mr Ron Todd, the union's general secretary, said any complaint would be fully investigated. He attacked reports of ballot irregularities as "astounding, unsubstantiated smears on the integrity of the union" and said he would be making a complaint.

However, senior officials are pressing for an urgent inquiry into the allegations.

The Government's Employment Bill, which received its third reading on Wednesday, stipulates the need for an independent scrutineer to carry out the arrangements "made with respect to the production, storage, distribution, return or other handling of the voting papers used in the ballot".

Last year, when a "by-election" was held for the General Worker's Trade Group, one of 12 which represents specialized groups of workers, "abnormally high returns" were reported in two regions. The hard left won the seat.

The ruling soft left executive yesterday said that any repetition in the same areas, Northern Ireland and the North-west, would result in an immediate investigation and a reference to the certification officer.

Mr Brian Nicholson, chairman of the union and the leading moderate candidate from Region One, was reported to be shocked by the latest allegation. A source close to the chairman last night said: "These are extremely serious allegations which clearly deserve a thorough and independent investigation".

Mr Ken Reid, secretary of Region One, said yesterday he had compiled a document on the allegations which he had passed to Mr Todd.

Mr Todd called off his attendance at a press conference on the Ford strike. A statement on the claims about irregularities was issued on his behalf.

Unions try to save Twiggy's TV series

By John Spicer
Employment Affairs Correspondent

Equity, the actors' union, and the Musicians' Union say they are willing to adopt a flexible approach over repeat fees and overseas sales to save the £4.5 million television drama series *Betty*, which was scrapped on Thursday.

Filming of the six-hour series about a 1930s London nightclub hostess, starring Twiggy and Christopher Lee, was to start at Shepperton Studios in Surrey next month, providing work for 200 people for six months.

However, London Weekend Television, which had commissioned the project from an independent production company, withdrew its backing after the unions said the series could not be made under the normal independent film makers' agreement.

The Musicians' Union told the company, Eagerworth, which was formed by Twiggy, who owns the rights to the script, that the series should be covered by ITV Association agreements and not by the British Film and Television Producers' Association (BFTPA), of which it is a member.

Under BFTPA agreements, actors and musicians get a one-off payment covering any repeat performances or overseas sales. Under the ITV arrangement, a separate payment is made every time the programme is screened.

On Thursday, Mr Greg Dyke, LWT's director of programmes, said that rather than submit to the unions' "totally unjustifiable" demands, the company had decided to cancel the commission.

Yesterday, after a meeting between leaders of the musicians' and actors' unions, a joint statement said they were willing to discuss the matter with LWT "to avoid the programme being jeopardized".

It is understood that because both agreements deal with repeat fees and overseas sales in their different ways, the unions feel sure a compromise can be reached.

Hospital series leads to reunion



Get well soon: Mr Bruce Owens reminisces with his father yesterday in hospital.

A son was reunited with his father yesterday for the first time in 20 years after seeing him on the *Hospital Watch* BBC programme.

Mr Bruce Owens, aged 43, realized as he watched television on Tuesday that the man talking bravely about his impending heart surgery at Broadgreen Hospital, Liverpool, was his father.

Dennis Owens, who lives in Corwen, Clwyd, was only 23 when his first wife died in 1947 leaving him with two children. His year-old daughter was adopted and contact was lost.

But his son was brought up by an aunt and kept in touch until 1968. His son said: "We lost touch because both of us were moving around and I was getting married".

He contacted the BBC from his home in Reading, Berkshire, after the programme. "My dad had not met my two youngest children so it was quite a reunion".

His father said: "I am so happy. Bruce's family are lovely. Now I can't wait to get well so I can visit them."

NHS staff shortages

Emergency heart operation is refused

A patient was refused heart surgery because of hospital staff shortages, just 10 minutes before he was due on the operating table.

The operation at the Northern General Hospital, Sheffield, was called off after the heart disease sufferer received a premed injection and was on oxygen for two hours in preparation for surgery.

At the same time, the Government faced criticism yesterday as it defended the temporary closure of the Birmingham Children's Hospital to emergency admissions.

Mr Nicholas Scott, Minister for Social Security, said the decision had been taken by hospital doctors to avoid delaying operations on patients already in hospital.

Mr Scott told the Commons that children from the West Midlands were being sent instead to other hospitals, including the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London. He said talks were being held with private hospitals to help reduce Birmingham's waiting lists.

In Sheffield, Mr Lee Jones, a former postman, was admitted to the Northern General Hospital for a triple bypass operation after surgeons said his condition was deteriorating.

Mr Jones spent two days preparing for surgery. The operation was cancelled suddenly when five theatre nurses phoned in ill.

Mr Jones said yesterday: "It is disgraceful that these things can happen. When I saw the surgeon he said he wanted to do this as soon as possible. But I could have a heart attack and drop down dead before this operation takes place."

Mr Jones, who first suffered a heart attack nine years ago, has been suffering from clogging of the four arteries leading to his heart for 14 months. He said: "I have nothing against the hospital staff. I blame it entirely on the Government and the state of the National Health Service."

The National Union of Public Employees at the hospital said: "We had three or four operations cancelled over the last month. This sort of thing happened a couple of years ago due to a lack of qualified staff, and it has happened ever since the cash shortage. We are short of staff but we are particularly desperate for qualified nurses."

Mr Richard Akroyd, the unit general manager, said: "Some of our specialized theatre staff did not come in because they were ill. We could not proceed with the operation. It is not an unthinking, callous sort of attitude. It is because we don't carry out operations dangerously."

In Parliament, Mr Robin Corbett, Labour MP for Birmingham Erdington, said: "How many more children have got to die in Birmingham and the West Midlands before this government ensures that there is cash to give those children the life-saving operations they need".

Mr Scott said 20 open heart operations and 24 closed heart operations had been carried out at the hospital in the past two months. He agreed it was a shortage of skilled nurses, not cash resources, which lay at the heart of the problem.

Meanwhile, the parents of children awaiting heart surgery in the West Midlands reacted angrily yesterday to the announcement that the hospital had stopped all new emergency admissions because its intensive care unit was full.

Dr Richard George, chairman of the hospital's medical panel, said the decision meant no child from the West Midlands who required heart or certain other types of surgery needing intensive care could be admitted. But he made clear that the decision would probably only affect new patients referred by consultants at other hospitals. He said it was unlikely to affect children already on the waiting list.

Parliament, page 4

Copyright changes raise new criticism

By Sheila Gunn
Political Staff

The Government has performed a series of U-turns by rewriting or removing some of most controversial provisions in its copyright Bill to meet criticism of its most startling defects. However, the proposed changes are likely to provoke fresh dispute between the conflicting interests.

Ministers had considered dropping the whole Copyright, Designs and Patents Bill until later in this Parliament because so many issues are still unresolved after seven days' scrutiny in the House of Lords. They have agreed to persevere and are tabling a mass of amendments.

One amendment, to delete part of clause 11, is a victory for newspaper proprietors and editors, as it grants them full copyright over their journalists' work for the first time since 1911.

Under the Bill as it stands journalists enjoy "moral rights" to insist on bylines and to have the right on the editing of their work. It also stopped newspapers selling photographs of, for example, weddings or beauty queens.

The Government has accepted the arguments of newspaper publishers that the proposals cause an anomaly, limiting editorial freedom and threatening administrative chaos. Attempts are expected to be made later this session by peers and MPs to return these rights to the journalists.

The Government has also agreed to give photographers the same protection over the use of their work as others, the copyright for their lifetime plus 50 years.

One far-reaching climbdown is a government amendment removing the promise given in the White Paper and the Bill to prevent photocopying of work for commercial research. Industry has been alarmed at plans to set up a licensing agency to control such copying, arguing that the costs would outweigh the money collected.

New clauses tabled by the Government will impose royalties on video tapes, compact discs and computer software.

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£13,000 to family in police raid

A couple and their daughter who suffered a "terrifying ordeal" when police broke into their home at night won £13,113 damages from the Metropolitan Police Commissioner in the High Court yesterday.

Mr Ronald Furneaux, aged 54, spent 16 hours in police custody after being humiliated in front of his wife Kay anddaughter Angela, then aged nine.

The girl is to receive £6,000 of the award for the distress caused when police broke into the family's home in Hackney, east London, in June 1982.

She was so upset by the sight of firearms, the presence of an alsatian and the behaviour of police she suffered a psychological disorder.

The family were woken as officers armed with guns, pickaxe handles and crowbars broke down the front door.

Mrs Furneaux and her daughter watched helplessly as Mr Furneaux was told "you are nicked for armed robbery". Later he was told a robbery had taken place and he had been mistakenly identified.

The family claimed damages for assault, wrongful arrest, false imprisonment and trespass. Police denied the allegations, but agreed to pay the damages.

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War and plague predicted

Planets stir at unearthly hour

By Alan Hamilton and Robert Matthews

While readers of *The Times* and other respectable citizens slumbered in the embrace of Hypnos at 1am today, the world slipped silently into an era of uncertainty and upheaval, from which no life will escape untouched.

Anyone who parted the curtains in expectation of seeing the earth swarming with a plague of serpents would have been disappointed. Saturn was simply in conjunction with Uranus.

Such an alignment of planets is of great significance to astrologers. The last time it happened, they point out, was around the time of Pearl Harbor, and the time before the time before that was on the eve of the Battle of Trafalgar.

That Saturn, the planet of stability, and Uranus, the planet of upheaval, are together in Sagittarius and about to move together into Capricorn, is regarded as the harbinger of unexpected events, such as Mr Ken Livingstone leading the Labour Party.

Worse is to come, however; while Saturn and Uranus drift hand in hand into Capricorn, they will be joined there by Mars, the planet of aggression, on February 22.

According to professional astronomers, such a conjunction of the two giant planets happens no more than twice in a century; it occurs when they appear to lie in a straight line from the earth and on the point of collision. But even that is something of an optical illusion, for they are still separated by at least 900 million miles of the absolute emptiness of space.

Uranus is also much fainter than Saturn, and most observers require a good pair of binoculars if they are to see it.

During the 1970s there were claims that conjunctions of the planets had direct effects on the Earth through the concentration of gravitational force that such alignments appear to generate. Simple calculations using Newton's law of gravity, however, show that any additional force is too small to lose any sleep over.

Not that such a dismissive scientific view deters the astrologers. One who writes regularly in a national newspaper told his readers: "No matter what sign you are, you'll feel the influence of this powerful planetary line-up before the year is over".

Predictions range from a huge war in the Middle East to a plague which kills millions, neither of them startlingly original given the currently available evidence.

But upheaval does not mean unrelieved gloom; the astrologers predict that the conjunction could equally bring a lasting world peace and a cure for Aids.

Ministers modify clause 28

Government ministers have tabled last-minute amendments to clause 28 of the Local Government Bill after admitting privately that its present wording is ambiguous.

To fend off another storm next week over the clause, which prohibits local authorities promoting homosexuality, the Government has tried to reassure peers that it is not embarking on a witchhunt against homosexuals.

The main amendment tabled yesterday by Lord Caithness, an Environment Minister, tries to make it clear that the clause applies only where a local authority intends to promote homosexuality and not where the author of an artistic work intends to promote it.

On Tuesday, a number of other amendments will be debated which attempt to restrict the clause solely to the promotion of homosexuality in schools.

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Lorry jack-knifed in contraflow crash that claimed eight

By Ian Smith

A motorway policeman told yesterday of the haunting carnage that greeted him when he was called to a M6 contraflow crash that killed eight people.

Seven members of a rugby supporters club died when their minibus was crushed by a lorry that jack-knifed. A woman travelling in a car also died.

Police Constable Edward Connell, who arrived minutes after the accident, told an inquest at Lancaster: "It was something I have never seen before and hope never to see again.

"I could see people hanging out of the minibus and when I looked inside I could see men dead, dying or trapped. There was a deathly silence."

The minibus occupants were members of the Happy Wanderers rugby football supporters club from West Yorkshire. The woman who died was Mrs Margaret Mumford, a nursery nurse. Her husband and daughter aged 16 were seriously injured.

The vehicles crashed at 8.30am in heavy rain on the M6 crossing the Lune at Halton, near Lancaster on September 5 last year.

Both the minibus and the Granada car carrying the Mumford family were travelling north on the third lane of the southbound carriageway while southbound traffic used the middle and inside lanes.

The inquest was told that a southbound lorry on the inside lane pulled out as it was being overtaken by another truck driven by Mr David Nappin. He was forced to take avoiding action and jack-knifed into the path of northbound traffic.

Mr David Isaacs, the driver of the other lorry, declined to give evidence. The jury listened to a statement he made to police after stopping at a service station 30 miles on from the accident.

He said he had been forced into the middle lane by a slow-moving car. "The driver of the Mini left me no alternative. It was either overtake or come to a stop as he was slowing down yet again", Mr Isaacs, aged 36, told the officers.

"It is possible that I misjudged the speed of the vehicle travelling behind and it may appear by my pulling out it caused him to brake."

Mr Isaacs, whose lorry and trailer weighed 38 tonnes, told the police he had been driving inside the speed limit and with due safety because of the wet road. He criticized other drivers whom he insisted were travelling too fast.

Police said after the inquest that Mr Isaacs, of Ripon Road, Winton, Bournemouth, Dorset, has been charged with careless driving.

The minibus party had all played rugby together and most had been classmates, Mr Russell Smith, a founder member of the club, said.

They had been on their way to a walk in the Lake District and were cheerful, relaxed and excited about the day ahead.

Mr James Mumford, aged 50, of Cherrywood, Preston, Lancashire, told the inquest jury that he, his wife and daughter had been travelling to visit family friends in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear. He saw the second lorry start to swerve and said to his wife: "My God, there is going to be a big crash". Seconds later he lost consciousness.

Those killed in the minibus were the driver Mr Derek Wadsworth, aged 50, of Copley, Halifax, West Yorkshire; Mr Keith Whittaker, of Brighouse, West Yorkshire; Mr Thomas Park, aged 47, of Elland, West Yorkshire; Michael Hiller, aged 43, of Manor Heath Road; Mr Anthony Greenwood, aged 52, of Springfield Drive; and Mr William Garnett, aged 50, all of Halifax.

The jury returned a verdict of misadventure after Mr George Howson, the coroner, described how every motorway accident was a potential catastrophe.

Mr Howson said the only way of avoiding fatalities during roadworks was to close entire sections of motorway but this had been deemed impractical by the Department of Transport because of the inevitable "monumental" traffic jams

Clergyman jailed for assaulting schoolgirls

A clergyman was sent to prison for six months yesterday after being found guilty of indecently assaulting schoolgirls.

A jury at Guildford Crown Court, Surrey, found David St Clair Tudor, aged 32, guilty of three charges. Judge Kenneth Rubin ordered them to acquit him of a fourth charge because the alleged incident took place in Majorca, outside the court's jurisdiction.

The judge told Tudor, of Venner Road, Sydenham, south-east London: "It's a tragedy for the church, society and for you. One of the reasons that courts punish people for this offence is that it involves a gross breach of trust that society has placed in one." The court must be seen to "discourage others".

He jailed Tudor for six months on each count, to run concurrently.

The assaults happened between 1981 and 1983 while Tudor was Anglican chaplain of St Bede's Secondary School in Redhill, Surrey, curate of St Matthew's Church in Redhill, and vicar of St Philip's at Reigate.

He was found guilty of having sexual relations with a girl aged 13 at least 100 times over two years, enticing a girl of 15 into a sexual relationship, and fondling another girl of 15 when she went to him for Bible study to help towards a Girl Guide badge.

Tudor stood calmly in the dock to hear his sentence before turning to weeping Christian supporters and nodding acknowledgement for their help.

Mr Peter Digney, for the defence, had said earlier that Tudor began his career with distinction but faced a bleak future. With luck he would return to the church in a number of years but his path to promotion was clearly blocked.

He said Tudor deeply regretted the embarrassment he had caused to the church at a time when it was receiving such a bad press.

Motioning to the gallery full of supporters for his client, Mr Digney said: "He is clearly a man of unusual talent and ability, which makes what has happened here today the more heartbreaking for all these people. As far as his future is concerned, it is clearly a very black one indeed."

On Tudor's position of responsibility with teenage children, Mr Digney said: "When Mr Tudor started work as chaplain at St Philip's he was only 24. The idea behind putting a chaplain into a school of that sort to play the role expected of him was an unwise one.

"His role was to become friendly with the pupils. It was not a normal teaching one. He was expected to get as close to those young people as was possible. You may think that was a dangerous situation."



Tudor arriving yesterday at Guildford Crown Court, where he was jailed for six months.

Barrister's speech lasted 28 hours

A black barrister who accused a judge of racial prejudice and took 28 hours to make a closing speech has been disbarred from practising, it was announced yesterday.

Mr Beriston Bryan admitted describing a prosecuting counsel's speech as "a load of crap" and calling out "Jesus!" when the trial judge asked a shorthand writer to read back a passage of the court proceedings.

The West Indian barrister further admitted wasting the court's time through repetition, lack of familiarity with details of the case, pursuing irrelevant points and making a closing speech lasting 28 hours.

He accused the judge of "built-in bias" against Semiyu Kassim, a Nigerian defendant in a 75-day trial at Southwark Crown Court, south-east London, between October 1984 and April 1985.

The decision to disbar Mr Bryan was announced yesterday by the Masters of the Bench of the Inner Temple after a disciplinary tribunal last year and an appeal last month. Mr Bryan was not available for comment.

A spokesman for the General Council of the Bar said yesterday that he could not comment on an individual case, but disbarment was extremely rare and on average only two barristers a year have been disbarred recently.

Disbarment is the most severe penalty that can be imposed by the professional conduct committee.

The spokesman saidbarristers were disbarred for conviction for a crime of dishonesty; harming or perverting the administration of justice; persistent and flagrant breach of professional rules; or disreputable behaviour.

Car telephone tapping

Subscribers warned of risks

By Tony Dawe

The two companies which provide Britain's mushrooming car and portable telephone networks gave a warning to subscribers yesterday of the dangers of "careless talk" amid confusion about whether tapping the networks is illegal.

British Telecom and Racal, with about 150,000 customers in the fastest growing sector of the communications industry, admitted that their cellular radio systems, which use the airwaves, are vulnerable.

"Our customers must treat that risk seriously and adjust their conversations accordingly", Mr Derek Wordley, a director of Telecom's Cellnet division, said.

Both companies had assumed that bugging the networks was an offence under the Interception of Communications Act but Judge Daniel Rodwell said at Luton Crown Court yesterday that evidence in a case he had been hearing was "insufficient to say if any Cellnet telephone calls come within this Act".

He made his remarks after criticizing a report in *The Times* yesterday, based on an agency story, which said the judge believed the tapping of car phones did not appear to be covered by any Act of Parliament.

Judge Rodwell yesterday jailed Terry Rowe of Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, for 28 days and Terrence Franklin Rowe, who was not related, of Basildon, Essex, for 21 days for conspiring to tap ordinary telephones. On Thursday he jailed Michael Anderson, of Ettington, Warwickshire, for 12 months with nine suspended, after he was convicted of the same charge.

The case and the judge's remarks will be studied by the Home Office but in the meantime British Telecom and Racal are alerting customers to the risks of interception.

Racal, which markets the Vodafone system, said: "We have always known and accepted that cellular phone calls can be tapped but it takes a very determined person to do it".

Racal said it would be necessary to follow a person to hear his call in city centres, where the system is very complex and split into several cells which operate on different frequencies.

Mr John Redman, a security consultant of Dartford, Kent, said: "When you talk on a car or portable phone, you are sending a signal which can be plucked out of the air. We advise our clients to use their car phones for simple messages

During the case at Luton, Mr Wordley said that British Telecom had called in Anderson to investigate ways of bugging the Cellnet system. Mr Wordley told *The Times* yesterday: "We had received reports that a special piece of equipment, added to the AR 2002 wideband receiver which we supply, could enhance it in such a way that it would pose a threat to our network."

City report, page 25

Advice on Aids being ignored

By Thomson Prentice
Science Correspondent

Women seem to have taken little heed of Aids publicity campaigns stressing the need for condoms, but the risk of their becoming infected with the human immunodeficiency virus remains very low, according to researchers.

Only three out of more than 1,100 women tested for the HIV antibodies at a London clinic for sexually transmitted diseases were positive, and their sexual partners were either intravenous drug abusers or a bisexual, says a report in the *British Medical Journal*.

More than half the women said their partners never used a condom. The study was carried out after the Government's "Don't die of ignorance" publicity campaign last year.

The researchers, from the West London and Charing Cross Hospitals, say: "The advice of the national campaign to use condoms for sexual intercourse with any partner whose state of health is uncertain seems to have had little effect. Only about one in eight of the women at risk in our study always followed this advice.

"There is, however, no evidence from this group of women that HIV infection is being spread by casual vaginal intercourse. Clearly the risk of becoming infected with HIV for heterosexual women in London is very low."

The latest Department of Health figures show that 17 British women have contracted Aids through heterosexual contact and at least 150 others are known to have been infected heterosexually, without yet developing the disease.

● Routine screening of children before adoption and fostering for traces of HIV infection has been rejected by British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering.

● The Royal College of General Practitioners is sending booklets about Aids to 10,000 family doctors.

Lost Stradivarius bought for player

SALEROOM

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

A Stradivarius violin stolen from New York's Carnegie Hall in 1936, and rediscovered in 1985, has been bought for more than $1 million by a private benefactor on behalf of the British violinist Norbert Brainin, it was announced yesterday.

News also came in from Moscow that another Stradivarius may have been found in Russia.

Mr Brainin was a member of the Amadeus Quartet until it disbanded last year after the death of Peter Schidlof, the viola player. He intends to use the instrument as a soloist. The benefactor is not British.

Mr Brainin is to play it for the first time in public at the Guildhall School of Music next Saturday.

The violin had been stolen by a gambler-come-troubadour called Julian Altman, who had played it for 50 years with no one knowing. The truth about his instrument emerged only in 1985, when, lying in bed with cancer, he advised his wife Marcelle Hall to "do something about that violin" back home. She did so, and found newspaper cuttings in the case disclosing its identity and telling the tale of the theft.

The instrument, known as "The Gibson", made in Cremona in 1713, had been bought by the violinist Bronislaw Huberman in 1911, and used by him until 1936 when the Stradivarius disappeared from his dressing room. Lloyd's of London paid out £8,000; they were the sellers yesterday. Meanwhile another Stradivarius violin may have been discovered in the remote Siberian city of Chita.

The instrument, believed to be dated 1728, is said to have been hanging unnoticed on the wall of the home of Mr Nikolai Balagurov, aged 77. His great grand-daughter decided to investigate its background after seeing a Soviet television programme.

● The British Rail Pension Fund has begun selling important items from its art collection, at present on loan to museums and galleries, it was disclosed last night (Andrew Billen writes).

The pension fund announced last spring that it would sell off its £40 million investments in art and antiques, but until now the main works sold, such as Old Master and Japanese prints, had not been previously on public display.

Now English Heritage is buying two Pannini paintings worth nearly £200,000 to keep them in their original home, Marble Hill House in Twickenham.

Mr David Andrew, company secretary of the pension fund trustees, said that the Marble Hill House sale was the first of its kind and that the trust was not at present in negotiation with any other museum.



A George II wooden doll sold for £7,700 to an American buyer at Bonhams toy sale in London yesterday.

GCSE teacher who aired exam worries 'disobeyed orders'

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

A history teacher who refuses to teach GCSE is being disciplined by his school for talking to parents outside the school gate of his worries that the examination is virtually impossible to teach.

Mr Chris McGovern, who teaches at Lewes Priory Upper School, East Sussex, accuses the examiners who set the Southern Examining Group syllabus of confused thinking, and even of "schoolboy howlers" and errors of fact in the pre-examination material sent to schools.

Mr Keith Chaplin, the head, has ordered him to attend a disciplinary meeting. He says that Mr McGovern, head of the four-teacher history department, disobeyed his orders to refrain from telling parents on school premises of his concerns.

Anxious parents have clubbed together to hire rooms in a local further education college where Mr McGovern and his colleagues are preparing 30 of their pupils to take the Scottish O-examination instead, which is closer in style to the old GCE O-level examinations.

Mr McGovern and his colleagues have come under pressure from the school and from East Sussex County Council to teach GCSE. Frequent meetings have been held with council officials, who have attempted, without success, to resolve the teachers' reservations.

The council accused the teachers of undermining parents' confidence in the GCSE. It said that although the GCSE had had "teething problems" the Scottish O grade was inappropriate for two thirds of pupils and might not be recognized by English or Welsh employers and higher education institutions.

However, the Universities Central Council on Admissions confirmed yesterday that universities in England and Wales routinely accept candidates with Scottish school qualifications.

Mr McGovern argues that the GCSE syllabus prepared by the Southern Examining Group covers three times as much ground as either O-level or CSE history, yet offers no question choice.

"A child has to cover 200 years of history and has a choice of one question on that period that invariably asks for great detail", he said.

Some of the sample questions were "incomprehensible even to professional historians" while others were ludicrously simple. For example, one suggested question was: "Was the conflict between Germany on the one side and Britain and France on the other the main quarrel between the countries in 1911?"

Another sample question was: "Why did the Allies (in the Second World War) try to keep their invasion plans as secret as possible?"

He complains that the examiners who wrote the "model answers" have a shaky grasp of facts.

● The joint council of the GCSE examining groups is to set up a "quasi-independent" appeals tribunal to which parents can take complaints about results in the examination this summer.

The plan has been boosted by pressure from Mrs Angela Rumbold, Minister of State at the Department of Education and Science.

The body will not be able to order examiners to re-mark papers. Because it is formed by joint agreement, it will be able to exert "strong moral pressure" to be fair to candidates, Mr Dennis Hatfield, chairman of the council, said.

At Long Road Sixth Form College in Cambridge, 41 of 62 English language O-level candidates received U (ungraded) grades last summer.

Miss Frances Haywood, their head, suspected a computer error and appealed to the Southern Examining Board. She was told that its decision was final and that there was no outside body — not even a Cabinet minister — to whom she could appeal.

Otter hound in favour again



Mr Peter Smith, with Oakleaf, his otter hound, judged best of breed at Crufts yesterday (Photograph: Mark Crick).

By Ruth Gledhill

The otter hound, whose history dates from the twelfth century, came back into a class of its own at Crufts yesterday when it was awarded challenge certificate status by the Kennel Club.

The hound, which looks like a cross between a bloodhound and an English sheepdog, had until yesterday been allowed to compete in show classes only as an "any variety" dog.

The award represents a victory for conservationists, who feared the hound would become extinct after otter hunting was banned in England in 1978 and in Scotland in 1980.

But active lobbying meant that hounds from at least two hunts, the Kendal and the Dumfriesshire, were saved and numbers have built up to more than 400.

Mr Peter Smith, the owner of Oakleaf, who was judged best of breed out of 18½ couples of otter hounds in a ring in the furthest corner of the Earls Court showground annex, wiped tears from his eyes when the judge, Captain John Bell-Irving, former master of the Dumfriesshire, gave his verdict.

Oakleaf, a bitch, instantly struck up a friendship with the runner-up, Mr Mike Ansell's Protector, a dog. The two are to be mated in the spring. They are descended from the ancient otter hounds Druid and Clansman, originally in the Dumfriesshire pack.

More than 4,000 terriers and hounds took part in 602 classes at Crufts yesterday.

Crufts second day: Best of breed

Terriers

Bedlington Terriers: Moorside Ursula Ula at Hilldyke. Mr B F Emsley, Bradford, West Yorkshire. Bull Terriers (Miniature): Spitewinter Subtle Trouble. Mr P Goodwin, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. Fox Terriers (smooth): Ch Cedestar Sun Boy. Mr A Westwood, Dudley, West Midlands.

Irish Terriers: Red Rosette. Mrs M M E Lloyd, Harborne, Birmingham.

Hounds

Beagles: Ch Fertrac Brandy. Mr M Phillips, Aberdare, Mid Glamorgan. Dachshunds (long-haired): Ch Albany's Red Rapper. Misses C L M and S D A Gatheral, Darlington, Co Durham. Dachshunds (miniature smooth-haired): Berrycourt Truly Fair. Mr and Mrs R L Vosden, Shaftesbury, Dorset. Dachshunds (miniature wire-haired): Longbraes Danny Boy of Andyc. Miss S M Raphael, Thirsk, North Yorkshire.

Elkhounds: Ch Harlth Polly. Mrs E M Jamieson, Guthrie by Forfar, Angus. Greyhounds: Ch Ramsley Prime Seeker. Mr P W Bartlett, Ashford, Kent. Ibizan Hounds: Ch Sins Summer Mist. Ms D Berry, Baldock, Hertfordshire.

Otterhounds: Boravin Oakleaf. Mrs J Smith, Llandeilo, Dyfed. Petits Basset Griffon Vendeen. Dumarden Fifine of Kirghitz. Mr and Mrs J E Clark, Lanarkshire. Pharaoh Hounds: Ch Rylaine's Djedkare. Mr M Bowles, Portsmouth, Hants.

Rhodesian Ridgebacks: Ch Umtali Katanga. Mrs G M Adsett, Okehampton, Devon.

Decision on Opren prompts campaign

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr Des Wilson and Mr Godfrey Bradman, the benefactor who stepped in to help claimants in the Opren case, are behind a new campaign to improve levels of compensation in law.

The move came yesterday after acceptance by more than 98 per cent of claimants of an offer of settlement in an action for damages. They claimed they had suffered after taking the drug.

Yesterday was the last day in which claimants could accept or reject the settlement offered by Eli Lilly, the American manufacturer of the banned anti-arthritis drug Opren, the campaigning organization Citizen Action said.

Higher compensation levels in law are among objectives being considered for the campaign. It also seeks the enabling of class actions to take place within British law.

One person involved in a case such as Opren could bring a court case as representative for all victims if a new system of class actions was introduced. Under existing British law, each case has to be brought individually.

The Lord Chancellor's department has had discussions with the Law Commission about the possibility of a preliminary study into whether class actions can and should be introduced into law in England and Wales.

Mr Wilson will be chairman of the new campaign and Mr Bradman will fund it. They jointly founded Citizen Action and the Clear campaign against the use of lead in petrol, paint and food containers.

Mr Bradman contributed financially to the revival of Friends of the Earth, the conservation group, under Mr Wilson's chairmanship, and to the International Year for the Shelter of the Homeless. Mr Wilson was the first director of Shelter.

Mr Wilson said yesterday that Mr Bradman helped 1,350 non-legally aided claimants to stay within the scheduled action on Opren after the judge announced that they would all be equally liable for costs unrecoverable from the defendants.

Universities 'may be stifled'

By Our Education Reporter

Two leading academic figures have joined forces to criticize government plans in the Education Reform Bill to centralize powers over universities.

Sir George Porter, president of the Royal Society, and Sir Randolph Quirk, president of the British Academy and former vice-chancellor of London University, have written to Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, calling for a meeting to discuss the plan to give wide powers to the Universities Funding Council.

They are concerned that the degree of control proposed will stifle innovation in universities.

The Bill, which lays down a radical system of contracts between universities and government, has been widely criticized as a threat to academic freedom.

The council will replace the University Grants Committee and though it will be able to advise Mr Baker on funding universities he will be under no obligation to follow their advice to the letter.

But the funding council will be able to vet individual courses and other university activities before recommending them for government support.

Sir George and Sir Randolph said: "It seems to us vitally important that changes be made to the Bill so that the proposed Universities Funding Council has included in its remit the duty of presenting to the Secretary of State well-informed advice.

"We are also concerned that the UFC's powers to lay down conditions to universities should be confined to those activities whose funding is derived from the UFC, and that universities should remain at liberty to pursue activities supported from other sources, especially innovative ones."

Paying big money in the show circuit

When the nation's top dog blinks at the battery of photographers in the winner's ring at Crufts tomorrow, it will instantly have earned itself money-making potential as a celebrity on the show circuit.

Owners of supreme champions can be inundated with invitations for appearances and advertising promotions. It is not unknown for them to have an agent.

This year an organization specializing in artificial insemination of bitches is likely to be interested in the overall winner. A representative from the dog sperm bank, understood to be based in Norway, has already approached the owner of at least one previous supreme champion.

Indeed most of the lucrative offers came from overseas.

Last year when an Afghan hound, Viscount Grant, took the top title, offers came from Japanese and American buyers. His owner, Mr Chris Amoo, a singer, said: "They came over with open cheques. If you were interested, which I was not, you could make a lot of money by simply selling the dog or bitch. There is a huge amount of prestige attached to the win.

"They would have taken him for stud value. He was in his prime." An Afghan breeder can get £2,000 for 10 puppies.

The Crufts top winner last year received £175; a quick television endorsement of the pet food Pedigree Chum can earn £350.

But the marketing operation for pet products begins long before the final rosette is pinned. Manufacturers will have already discovered the eating preferences of up and coming dogs and the willingness of owners to sign an advertising contract.

Mr Amoo turned down most of the appearance offers because he did not want Viscount Grant "dragged to the endless string of show appearances which would have been part of the deal."

February 12 1988 PARLIAMENT

Anger over Birmingham hospital move

Opposition protests about the Birmingham Children's Hospital's decision to halt new admissions were countered by charges that Labour MPs were more interested in scoring political points than in the care of children.

Mr Nicholas Scott, Minister for Social Security, said during exchanges about the decision that he understood that discussions were going on with the private sector to see if their facilities could be used to shorten the waiting list at the hospital.

Replying to a private notice question, he said that the Government was discussing the level of facilities for paediatric cardiac surgery at Birmingham Children's Hospital with the West Midlands regional health authority and the district health authority.

Doctors at the hospital had decided that because of the numbers of children awaiting cardiac surgery it would not be right to delay operations by accepting further patients who would need intensive-care beds.

They had therefore arranged for any emergency admissions requiring such intensive care to go to hospitals in nearby regions or Great Ormond Street Hospital, London.

Mr Robin Corbett (Birmingham, Erdington, Lab) asked how many children had to die in Birmingham and the West Midlands before the Government ensured that there was cash to allow the children to have the operations they needed when they needed them?

More than 100 innocent children were now in a tragic queue outside a hospital whose doors had been slammed shut. Some would die before they entered.

Mr Scott said that it was not a question of cash or resources. Arrangements had been made to seek places for these children elsewhere.

"Opposition rhetoric outruns the reality." In the last two months, 20 children had had open-heart operations in the hospital and another 24 had had closed-heart operations.

It was simply because of the build-up of cases that doctors had decided that it would be wiser to make alternative arrangements.

Mr Eric Forth (Mid Worcestershire, C) said that hospitals were operating at the frontiers of medical knowledge. These were problems built up by progress in medicine. This showed the need for additional skilled nursing staff.



Mr Scott: Rhetoric outruns the reality.

The Opposition's gross distortion disturbed the parents and children involved by raising this again and giving the impression that this problem could be solved by speeches in the House of Commons.

Mr Scott said that Labour MPs were more determined to score political points than to provide care for these children.

Mr Archy Kirkwood (Roxburgh and Berwickshire, L) said that Mr Scott was being dangerously complacent if he was relying on the regrading of the nurses' structure and payment for specialist nurses.

The review and any implementation would take months if not years, and meantime these situations would crop up.

Mr Scott said that the problem at Birmingham was being treated in "an eminently sensible way" in making arrangements with other hospitals and authorities.

Mr William Cash (Stafford, C) said that it would be a good idea for the private sector to give some help to alleviate the problem.

Mr Scott said that he would consult the Minister of Health (Mr Tony Newton), but he understood that discussions were in train with the private sector to see if their facilities could be used to shorten the waiting list at the hospital.

Mr James Lamond (Oldham, Central, and Royton, Lab) said that the decision was all the more serious in that it was a hospital medical committee decision. That indicated that it arose because of shortage of money.

The minister had taken refuge in the review of nurses' salaries and conditions, but if the review were not to be fully funded by the Government, the knock-on effect would be even more emergency decisions like this.

Mr Scott said that in addition to the longer-term problem there was the interim problem, about the level of facilities being provided at Birmingham Children's Hospital, which the department was discussing now with the region and districts.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C): Some of us are getting a little fed up with the strident and emotional reactions from the hospitals in Birmingham.

He said that, if the cost per patient in Birmingham were as low as the cost per patient in excellent hospitals such as those in Burton, there would be better facilities and patient care in Birmingham.

Mr Scott said that there had been big advances at the frontiers of medicine, which had meant that children who, some years ago, would have died, could now be treated. As a result there was a shortage of specialist nurses. The Government was doing something about this.

Mr Gerald Steinberg (City of Durham, Lab) said that the Opposition was accused of political rhetoric whenever such problems arose. "Has the Government no compassion whatever? The NHS is not safe in Tory hands."

Mr Scott said that substantial resources had been put into the NHS.

Autumn reshuffle

Thatcher to keep senior six

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister is expected to leave her most senior Cabinet ministers in their present posts throughout this year.

None of the top six jobs is expected to figure in any reshuffle Mrs Margaret Thatcher carries out in the autumn.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Trade and Industry and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, is emerging as the most likely prospect for a significant promotion within the Cabinet.

Senior ministers close to the Prime Minister believe there is little prospect of Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, and Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, being moved.

A question mark remains over Mr John Moore, the Secretary of State for Social Services.

Mr Clarke, a former Minister of Health, is serving his second Cabinet stint as No 2 to Lord Young, having moved with him from the Department of Employment.

He is regarded as being more than ready to take charge of a department. He is said by senior ministers to be the obvious replacement for Mr Moore if the Prime Minister should decide to move him from the Department of Health and Social Security.

If she decides to put a second Cabinet minister into that department to accompany Mr Moore he would also be a candidate.

Reports yesterday that the DHSS was to be split up, that Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Energy, was being tipped to be the next Chancellor, and that Lord Young wanted to take the Department of Employment under his wing caused consternation in senior Whitehall circles.

They were formally discounted by senior government sources but friends of Mr Parkinson and Lord Young were aghast at the reports which they feared had been inspired to damage them.

Lord Young has been trying to live down suggestions that he is an empire builder. Mr Parkinson is deeply involved in privatization of the electricity industry.

Mr Clarke, ministers believe, could become a candidate to chair the "Star Chamber", which arbitrates in Whitehall spending arguments.

Bill on medical reports

A Bill to allow people to see a medical report that their doctor proposed to send to an insurance company or employer was given an unopposed second reading in the Commons.

Mr Archy Kirkwood (Roxburgh and Berwickshire, L), moving second reading of his Access to Medical Reports Bill, said that although patients might assume that the doctor would be asked only to confirm that they were not suffering from a serious illness, he might, in fact, be asked detailed and intrusive questions about them.

The insurance industry's current concern with Aids had led to questions about sexual behaviour designed to discover whether the patient was homosexual or promiscuous. Employers might well be asking the same questions soon.

People often did not realize that information about their family, personal life or sexual relations might be involved and they had no guarantee that it would not be passed on.

Under the Bill, the insurance company or employer must have the written consent of the applicant before approaching the doctor for a medical report. That consent would only be valid for 90 days. It applied only to information given in confidence and did not cover reports resulting from independent medical examinations carried out for the insurance company or employer.

The Bill was deliberately modest in scope and, in committee, they might discuss the possibility of a right to correct factual inaccuracies in the reports or of allowing people to add a note of their own.

Mr Robin Corbett, an Opposition spokesman for home affairs, said that any chance to put a pickaxe to the walls of secrecy was welcome. Where a job or insurance policy might turn on a doctor's report it could not be right for a person not to know what the doctor said.

Mr Nicholas Scott, Minister for Social Security, said that the Bill as it stood appeared not to give the patient a right to correct inaccurate reports or a specific right to withdraw consent. Nor did there appear to be a right to have the patient's comments added.

The Government was talking to the British Medical Association about opening up medical records. Significant progress had been made. The Government would have preferred to conclude those talks by making health records generally available without specific legislation.

As a matter of principle, patients should have the right to know what was being recorded about them.

MPs support bid to stop distress and anxiety of poison-pen letters

The Malicious Communications Bill, which would outlaw "poison letters" not already covered by criminal law, was given an unopposed second reading in the Commons.

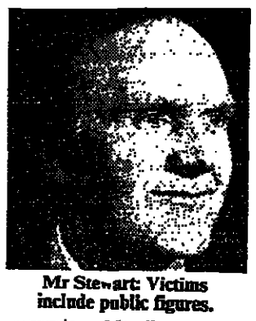
Mr Andrew Stewart (Sherwood, C), moving it, said that the Bill aimed to protect individuals from distress and anxiety.

It would be an offence to deliver or send a letter which the sender knew or believed to be false. It applied specifically to material where the intent was to cause the recipient distress.

It would be a definable offence to send a letter or article of a grossly offensive nature or containing an indecent message or unjustifiable threat. It would be an offence to send a letter carrying false information or any information believed by the sender to be false. It would include delivering any such message.

Every MP had at some time been asked by a constituent for help as a result of receiving offensive hate mail. Every MP received such mail.

The offence would only be triable by magistrates courts, with a maximum penalty of £400. It would be a defence to prove that the sender had reasonable grounds for the accusation. Morally blameless behaviour would not be penalized.



Mr Stewart: Victims include public figures.

Victims included many public individuals and more recently the families of non-striking miners during the miners' strike.

Mr Michael Lord (Central Suffolk, C) said that Julia Somerville, the well-known newscaster, had received dreadful threats. At one time, a photograph of her was found at ITN with the eyes gouged out. Anthony Hopkins, the actor, had been receiving poison-pen letters for months.

Mr John Patten, Minister of State at the Home Office, hoped that the Bill would receive all-party support and would become law as quickly as possible to help those persecuted by malicious communications.

Though it was vicious and harmful, hate mail did not come into the gravest end of the spectrum of human behaviour, but was serious enough to be made an offence.

The fine was fixed at £400. The Law Commission had recommended £2,000 and/or six months in prison but that was in excess of the maximum penalty for broadly similar offences. There was no justification for a high penalty.

Mr Robin Corbett, an Opposition spokesman for home affairs, said that Mr Stewart had mentioned hate mail delivered in the miners' strike. Without wishing to defend such mail it was important to understand that in any industrial dispute there were passions that encouraged people to use this outlet.

● The Consumer Arbitration Agreements Bill, which limits the extent to which traders can insist on arbitration when in dispute with consumers, passed its committee stage. Its sponsor, Mr James Pawsey (Rugby and Kenilworth, C) had successfully moved Government-inspired amendments to limit its extent.

Left urged to drop Kinnock contest

Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr David Blunkett, a leading figure of the Labour left, last night gave a double-edged warning to the far left to abandon any idea of challenging Mr Neil Kinnock for the Labour leadership.

Any contest would result in a humiliating and demoralizing defeat for the individual concerned, he told his Sheffield Brightside constituency party.

But it would also create a position of near "omnipotence" for Mr Kinnock who would have annihilated his opponents and any challenge to the style and direction of the leadership.

Mr Blunkett, a member of the national executive, maintains a stance of qualified support for Mr Kinnock, but is critical of him on some issues.

The clear implication of his remarks was that the left would be falling into a trap if it provided for Mr Kinnock the outright endorsement that an overwhelming leadership victory would give him, and would prevent the constructive criticism which Mr Blunkett believes is necessary.

Mr Blunkett's intervention came as Mr Tony Benn, seen as the most likely challenger to Mr Kinnock, prepared to make another onslaught against him today.

He is to address a rally in Sheffield and is expected to deride the argument that the left should not question the leadership for fear that it might divert it from fighting the Tories.

He is expected to accuse Mr Kinnock of steering the party still further to the right by adopting the Tory market philosophy in the statement of aims and values presented last week.

That document, drawn up by Mr Kinnock and Mr Roy Hattersley, was denounced by the *Tribune* newspaper yesterday as a "dead duck."

Mr Blunkett gave a warning that by forcing a contest the left could isolate itself from influence and the shaping of policy for decades. And he said there would be a further fragmentation of the left between those refusing to join a "futile and self-destructive exercise" and those who felt that out of loyalty or frustration they had to commit themselves to the anti-leadership campaign.

He said of a contest: "The result would be the exact opposite of that intended: a demonstration of weakness, not strength; of political ineptitude not wisdom."

Prince to speak on tax forests

By Sheila Gunn
Political Staff

The Prince of Wales is expected to warn the Government next week of the ecological damage caused by the uncontrolled and subsidized conversion of moorland into forests.

In his first speech in the House of Lords for nearly 13 years the prince is likely to call for more care before the Government and landowners embark on further massive forest projects.

He is also preparing to side with the Nature Conservancy Council, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Council for the Protection of Rural England in criticizing the present system of tax relief for growing conifer forests.

The prince has let it be known for some months that he wants to speak in the Upper House if a subject could be found that was not politically controversial. For his first appearance since 1975 he has chosen to take part in a five-hour debate on the Nature Conservancy Council's thirteenth report.

However, afforestation has become more contentious since Treasury ministers started looking at ways of cutting the £10 million tax relief on forests in the next Budget.

Deal on A-bomb for Scots hydro plant struck by Churchill

By Kerry Gill

A wartime agreement between Winston Churchill and Tom Johnston, Secretary of State for Scotland, allowed Britain to enter the race for an atomic bomb and gave electricity to remote Highland crofts, according to a television programme to be shown tonight.

Churchill's determination to manufacture an atomic bomb before Hitler led him to agree to a £30 million hydro-electric scheme for the Scottish Highlands.

The Channel 4 programme, *Giants of the Glens*, says that the large-scale hydro-electric plants were approved for a far more sinister reason than putting the glens on to the national grid: the production of heavy water, essential for the manufacture of the atomic bomb.

The programme says that the hydro-electric programme was Johnston's price for joining Churchill's wartime Cabinet as Scottish secretary.

Churchill wanted Johnston, a former leftist agitator and journalist, to return to politics and to keep Scotland in check during Britain's darkest hours in 1941, it adds. Johnston refused at first, but agreed on condition that the Government gave the go-ahead to his pet scheme of hydro-electricity for the far north.

The deal is said to have been struck in the old North British Hotel, Glasgow, during a dinner between Churchill, Johnston and Harry Hopkins, the representative of President Roosevelt. Parliament passed, within a year of it, and without argument, a scheme that, on the face of it, contributed nothing to the war effort and was one of the biggest civil engineering tasks in Europe for the time.

Mr David Turner, the programme's producer, said Johnston drew up the Bill for the scheme in his cottage in the Stirlingshire village of Fintry. The village was included within the hydro electricity scheme's area.

People who knew Johnston, including his best friend Mr Tom Riddell, a civil engineer and former champion Scottish sprinter, said that the Secretary of State knew of Churchill's real intention for the hydro-electricity scheme, the programme says.

Mr Hamish MacKinven, who worked as an information officer for the Hydro Board for some 30 years, is also convinced that heavy water was the real reason for Churchill's obvious enthusiasm for the project.

The story, if it is true, shows that Britain was capable of producing an atomic bomb long before the Americans. In the event, the Americans' Manhattan Project took precedence simply because they entered the war and were able to employ 125,000 people on developing the bomb.

British scientists working on the bomb simply transferred their work to the United States, which became the centre for the atomic research.

Mr Turner said: "Churchill knew that Hitler had the ability to produce heavy water after the Germans occupied Norway and that he was working on his own atomic bomb".

It has been claimed recently that Loch Morar in Lochaber was used for heavy water research during the war. A hydro-electric power station now sits on the site of the former research plant.

The Scottish Office said: "This, if true in the first place, would have been a cabinet decision and the Scottish Office would never have been privy to such information".

The North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board said: "We have not seen the film yet and we have no details of the reference to Churchill and Tom Johnston.

"What we have seen is how the legacy of Tom Johnston has worked over the years to the benefit of the people of Scotland. He had a vision to set up the board.

"As to the background discussions before the birth of the board we cannot comment."

Jennings back at his old school



Pupils of St Lawrence College with the author Anthony Buckeridge, back at his old school (Photograph: Alan Weller).

By Alan Hamilton

Well, here's a bit of a hoo-hah: old Bucko has returned to prep school, and the pestilent oiks of the upper fifth at Limbury Court actually think he's a bit of a decent chap. He is, after all, the father of Jennings.

Anthony Buckeridge has been back to the school where he once taught, in reality St Lawrence College at Ramsgate, Kent, and where he created the eager, friendly schoolboy with untidy brown hair and a wide-awake look in his eyes, together with his owlish sidekick Darbishire. He was treated to a school production of *Jennings Abounding*, his own stage version of the enduring series of schoolboy stories.

It was a jolly mouldy swizzle of Collins, Buckeridge's original publisher, to let all 23 of the Jennings books go out of print after worldwide sales of five million copies. They are being revived under another imprint, however, with judicious updating by Buckeridge.

Out have gone fourpenny bus rides, short trousers, and words like "gay" whose meaning has been hijacked. Jennings, whose ambition was to fly to the Moon, has been overtaken by history and now has his sights on Mars. But the stories remain essentially unchanged, as does the character of schoolboys.

"I was fascinated by looking into the juvenile mind", Buckeridge said. Now aged 75, he abandoned teaching in 1950 in favour of full-time authorship. "They say and do things which are perfectly sensible to them, but which to adults seem totally lacking in reason. In that respect they do not change at all."

Jennings and Darbishire had a prep school career the length of which would be the despair of Mr Kenneth Baker. They first appeared in radio plays on BBC *Children's Hour* in 1948, and the last book, *Speaking of Jennings*, appeared in 1973. Two of Mr Buckeridge's former colleagues, Mr John Dixon and Mr James Gillespie, are still teaching at St Lawrence. "Neither of them", the author said judiciously, "is the model for Mr Wilkins".

Mr Ian Gollop, the present headmaster, said that the Jennings books were the most thumbed in the entire school library, and a straw poll among today's pupils indicated an enduring popularity. A present day Jennings, Thomas Bratcher, aged 10, of class 5a, averred however that neither he nor any of his sidekicks would employ the epithet "pestilent oik".

So what would they say instead? "You total and utter moron", Master Bratcher announced. And would not chaps have become guys or blokes. "Oh no", Master Bratcher said. "We're still chaps here."

And chapesses. The biggest change to the world of Jennings is that four years ago, St Lawrence went co-ed.

Alert over congested airways of Europe

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

Growing congestion in European airways and airports is costing airlines tens of millions of pounds every year and causing long delays for passengers, according to an internal study by the German national airline, Lufthansa.

The airline is pressing for the creation of one Europe-wide air traffic control system and is urging action by governments to prevent the problem turning into a crisis. It says more air traffic controllers are needed.

The report shows that Lufthansa aircraft spent 5,200 hours waiting to get into Frankfurt, Munich and Dusseldorf airports last year compared with 2,500 hours the year before.

These delays cost about £16 million and represented only a fraction of the total delays from air traffic control congestion problems around Europe.

In Frankfurt arrival delays more than doubled and departures from Munich were delayed 22 per cent more than in 1986.

Lufthansa says that throughout Europe the time lost due to delays on all flights originating in Britain, France or Luxemburg rose by 186 per cent and the number of delayed flights rose by 39 per cent.

"Market forces cannot produce a solution on their own. Political action is required", the airline says.

The number of flights is to increase this year leading to further delays. By the end of the decade the number of passengers flying around Europe will have doubled.

Germany is particularly badly affected by high level congestion because many of the main traffic streams pass over the country where much of the airspace is out of bounds to civil aircraft because of military manoeuvres.

Vets set to study pain in animals

By John Young
Agriculture Correspondent

A programme to ease pain and suffering among animals was launched yesterday by the Animal Welfare Foundation of the British Veterinary Association.

It is a scientific attempt to evaluate the extent to which animals suffer pain in the home, on the farm and in the laboratory, and what can and should be done to relieve it.

Mr Neal King, the foundation's chairman, said: "We should not be arguing about whether or not animals have rights. What we must recognize is that human beings have responsibilities."

Dr David Morton, chairman of the British Laboratory Animals Veterinary Association, said some experiments were painful, although the number of animals used in research had declined.

However, if cures were to be found for fatal diseases, certain experiments would still have to be carried out. The question was whether the lot of those animals involved could be improved.

Regarding pets, Mr King gave the example of an elderly, arthritic Labrador dog. Because it was unable to communicate and because the species tended not to show distress, the owner was unlikely to notice the animal's suffering.

The foundation is seeking more than £500,000 to fund new initiatives.

Tube inquiry told of locked gates

Two sets of locked gates confronted transport policemen during the King's Cross disaster, the public inquiry was told yesterday.

Police Constable Richard Kukielka said that he and Police Constable Grahame Martland were confronted with the gates when they tried to take Mr Richard Bates, a badly burnt passenger, to the surface.

They headed for a subway, to the British Rail station, where they were told an ambulance was waiting, but found gates locked across the entrance.

Minutes later, a London Underground official returned with keys, and the two police officers took Mr Bates through the long tunnel only to be confronted by another set of locked gates.

PC Kukielka ran back to the main Undergound station, where he was told the keys to the second gates were kept by British Rail, who would have to be telephoned. He then ran back to the gates and the two officers tried to kick them down, shouting for help from a member of British Rail staff they knew should be in the station above.

After a few minutes, while Mr Bates continued to scream in pain, a station cleaner arrived and opened the gates, saying he had been sweeping platforms and had not heard the shouting.

Earlier, the ticket collector who claimed that most of the fire victims died through "their own stupidity" told the inquiry there was "a lot of screaming, shouting and quite a few hysterical people" among passengers trying to escape.

Leading Railman John Wood, aged 54, said that after "a brilliant flash of flame" from the top of the Piccadilly line escalator, some passengers, including a woman with a small child, ignored his directions and went up the escalator towards the inferno.

Mr Wood, a former Scots Guardsman who has worked for the Underground for nine years, was continuing his evidence the day after claiming that "stupidity" killed 85 per cent of the victims of the fire on November 18.

Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, the inquiry chairman, has said that his evidence would not be accepted unless it was corroborated.

Mr Alan Cooper, counsel for the National Union of Railwaymen, appealed yesterday for "calm reflection" over Mr Wood's evidence.

Mr John Cartledge, for the London Regional Passengers Committee, told Mr Wood: "You found yourself in a very difficult and potentially very dangerous situation that night and it was an experience which was very stressful for anyone.

"It is also clear that you were subjected to rough handling and verbal abuse by some passengers. I wish to pass on apologies on behalf of passengers."

Blessing for Earl's marriage

Lord St Andrews, who lost his place as seventeenth in line to the throne when he married a Roman Catholic Canadian divorcee at a Scottish register office, is to have his union blessed by the Church of England in London today.

The service of prayer and dedication in the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, will be attended by 16 members of the Royal Family, including the Queen Mother, but the Queen, who is first cousin of the Earl's father, the Duke of Kent, will not be there.

Buckingham Palace said it believed she was spending the weekend at Windsor Castle.

Lord St Andrews, aged 25, made history six weeks ago when he became the first member of the Royal Family to marry in a register office.

His bride, Miss Sylvana Tomaselli, aged 30, a history research fellow at Newnham College, Cambridge, was born a Roman Catholic and by marrying her, Lord St Andrews excluded himself from the succession under the 1701 Act of Settlement.

Prison chiefs 'should decide parole'

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

A new system of parole, with most cases determined by the prison governor, is proposed by probation chiefs to the official parole review.

This would leave the Parole Board free to handle the cases of life sentence prisoners and inmates serving longer determinate terms.

The smaller numbers would allow the board to hear submissions on behalf of a prisoner, there could be an appeal process and reasons be given for refusals.

The Association of Chief Officers of Probation envisages more people with determinate sentences over 12 months being released for a shorter period by a simpler process.

The key issue would be the prisoner's future behaviour and planning for the parole period rather than, as now, the less reliable indicator of prison behaviour, association says.

Authorization would be formalized. The grant of parole would amount to a formal contract in which the prisoner would undertake to comply with the terms of the licence; the probation service would confirm the release arrangements; and the governor or his representative would authorize the release date and the parole period.

A centralized recall system would be operated, where necessary, by the Home Office.

● John Alexander, a black prisoner aged 27, who was refused an easy prison job after being labelled as showing the "arrogance and deviousness" of his race, had his damages for racial discrimination increased tenfold from £50 in the Court of Appeal.

Interest and additional damages for the difference in prison wages, from the press shop where he was forced to work and the kitchen where he wanted to go, brings his award up to £622.23.

By order of the Trustee in Bankruptcy
In compliance with terms of Court Judgement
No. RG 36.330.87 in the bankruptcy of an
Oriental Carpet Merchant

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AN EXCEPTIONAL & FINE SELECTION
AUTHENTIC GENUINE HANDMADE
HIGH VALUE
PERSIAN, AFGHANISTAN, EASTERN
CARPETS, RUGS & RUNNERS
INCLUDING:

Description	Valuers Rec. Sale Price	Minimum Bid
	£	£
Kashan Silk	4,200	500
Mashad	9,200	1,500
Baluch	150	N/R
Hubei Silk	7,800	800
Jaldar	750	100
Srinagar Silk	1,950	300
Allahabad	2,400	300
Hamadan	750	100
Multan	450	N/R
Kashkay	2,600	300
Tribal Mix	80	N/R
Mori Kashan	1,850	200
Faisabad	1,600	200
Shiraz	700	N/R
Isfahan	3,800	500
Gorband	60	N/R
Mirzapur	1,950	250

N/R=No Reserve

together with a vast number of other outstanding items in sizes from 2' x 2' to 14' x 10'
In accordance with the terms of the judgement the Court Appointed Liquidator has instructed the items be disposed of in the quickest possible manner
PIECE BY PIECE by
SHORT NOTICE
PUBLIC AUCTIONS
SUNDAY, 14th FEBRUARY
Part 1 morning at 11.30am sharp
Part 2 evening at 7.30pm sharp
Transferred from storage warehouse where this important part shipment has been discharged to
LONDONDERRY HOTEL
Park Lane, London W.1.
INSPECTION 1 hour PRIOR TO AUCTIONS
Terms: Cash, cheques and major credit cards
Trustee's agent
BICKENSTAFF & KNOWLES *AUCTIONEERS*
6, The Arcade, Thurloe Street, London SW7 2NA.
Telephone: 01-589 7971.

Solicitors get new rules on deposits

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Tighter rules on when solicitors are obliged to pay clients interest on money which they hold on deposit have been drawn up by the Law Society.

Rules on when solicitors should pay clients interest are now imprecise: they say that interest should go to a client if, in all the circumstances — including the amount and length of time the money is held — interest "ought in fairness to be paid".

However where a sum of money of more than £500 is held and likely to be held for more than two months, the rules state specifically that interest must be paid.

The rules were criticized by the National Consumer Council in its report in 1985, titled *Whose Interest?*

The council, which estimated that £40 million in interest was held by solicitors in England and Wales in 1983, recommended that where solicitors earned more than £10 on any sum of money held, it should go to the client.

The society has been forced to tighten the rules with the coming into force of the Financial Services Act 1986.

Mr Walter Merricks, for the society, said that the Securities and Investments Board believed that they did not provide the same protection as its own client money rules.

"The new rules will however be clearer and easier for solicitors to work", he said, and give clients "clearer entitlement to interest on sums deposited.

Under the new rules, interest becomes payable only after a lump sum of above a minimum £500 has been held by the solicitor for eight weeks.

On £1,000 or more, interest is payable after four weeks; on £5,000 or more after two weeks; and on £10,000 or more after one week.

Another change is that the new rules will apply, unlike the old, to money received by a solicitor which is subject to a trust of which the solicitor is a trustee.

The society is to approach the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry over amending the Solicitors' Act so that the rules can apply to trust money.

Yesterday the National Consumer Council welcomed the changes as a "step in the right direction".

However, the council was particularly concerned that the rules would not apply to deposits — the 10 per cent of the purchase price — held by solicitors as stakeholders in conveyancing transactions.

"This is the occasion that most people will be placing money with solicitors. It is not covered by the rules although solicitors are advised in guidance that the deposit rules should apply."

The society said last night it had no power to do more than advise solicitors to pay interest on deposits held as stakeholders.

ANNOUNCING
Selfridges
SPECIAL FUR SALE
OWING TO THE EXCEPTIONALLY MILD WINTER
OUR FUR SALON IS HEAVILY OVERSTOCKED
STARTING TODAY
EVERY SINGLE GARMENT
WITHOUT EXCEPTION WILL BE ON SALE AT
HALF THE NORMAL TICKET PRICE
WHILE STOCKS LAST
THIS WILL INCLUDE PASTEL, RANCH, MAHOGANY & WHITE MINK JACKETS AND COATS, RED, BLUE & LYNX FOX JACKETS AND COATS, STRANDED FEMALE & MALE MINK JACKETS AND COATS AND MANY DESIGNER COLLECTION FURS.
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WORLD ROUNDUP

Superpowers in Black Sea 'clash'

American and Soviet warships were involved in a ramming incident in the Black Sea yesterday, with the Pentagon announcing later that the US would be lodging an official protest over the confrontation (Our Foreign Staff writes).

According to the Pentagon, two Soviet frigates "deliberately bumped" into the sides of two US Navy warships, the cruiser Yorktown and the destroyer Caron. There were no injuries in either of the two minor collisions, but the Yorktown was "slightly damaged". In its version of the incident, the Soviet Union said, in a statement released by Tass, that the two US ships had violated its territorial waters "ignoring Soviet warnings and manoeuvring dangerously".

Terrorists jailed

Paris – In wheelchairs, with nurses in attendance, four leaders of the Action Directe group yesterday received the maximum ten-year sentence for belonging to a criminal association (Susan MacDonald writes).

Nathalie Ménigon, Joelle Aubron, Georges Cipriani and Jean-Marc Rouillan have been on hunger strike since early December in protest at being kept in solitary confinement.

● ROME: Abu Nidal, the Palestinian leader, and a lieutenant were jailed for life in their absence yesterday after the 1985 massacre at Rome airport (AP reports). Mahmoud Ibrahim Khaled received 30 years.

Falklands rebuff

Britain yesterday denied Argentine accusations that military exercises on the Falkland Islands next month were provocative and would increase tension (Nicholas Beeston writes).

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said that manoeuvres from March 7-31 were intended to demonstrate Britain's ability to reinforce rapidly its garrison there. "We need to practise reinforcement and we are doing so," he said.

A communiqué from Buenos Aires on Thursday said: "Rather than choosing peaceful solutions to the Malvinas (Falklands) question and relations with Argentina ... (Britain) opts for a show of strength."

Thai-Laos peace bid

Bangkok – Thailand and Laos are expected to begin negotiations next week to settle their border conflict, which has claimed hundreds of lives in the past four months (Neil Kelly writes). General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Thai Prime Minister, said in a statement last night that his Government would be pleased to meet a military delegation from Laos here next Tuesday. Its agreement to negotiate is significant, since previously the Thais had refused talks until Laotian troops had withdrawn from the disputed 30 square miles of remote border hills almost 300 miles north of Bangkok.

Warsaw Pact lead

Bonn – Warsaw Pact forces outnumber Nato in men and weapons and have caught up substantially with the West in firepower, mobility, range and technology, a West German Government report said yesterday (John England writes).

It says that Bonn is concerned at the Eastern bloc's increasing military strength, especially in conventional weapons in Europe. In a foreword Herr Manfred Wörner, the Defence Minister, said that the Warsaw Pact was still maintaining far greater numbers of forces than it needed. The report pointed to considerable Eastern superiority in tanks, artillery and helicopters.

De Klerk overruled

Johannesburg – Moves by the South African Government to muzzle the country's English-language universities were dealt a severe blow yesterday when the Cape Town Supreme Court declared that restrictions imposed on the granting of subsidies were invalid (Ray Kennedy writes).

Last October Mr F.W. de Klerk, the Minister of National Education, said that universities risked losing vital state finance unless they imposed strict campus discipline. The move followed anti-government demonstrations, particularly by the growing number of black students at English-language universities.

Labor warns Hawke

Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, and his Labor Government came in for stinging criticism yesterday from their own party executives after a humiliating by-election defeat in Adelaide (writes our Sydney correspondent). Members of the National Executive accused the Government of not caring enough about ordinary Australians, and Mr Bob McMullan, the party secretary, warned: "We've got to get our act together." He said Labor supporters were also disenchanted with Mr Hawke's economic policies which were eroding living standards.

Kemp dented by rise of Robertson army

From Michael Binyon
Milford, New Hampshire

Congressman Jack Kemp paused briefly on the snowy pavement before shaking hands and exchanging banter in another of the shops enclosing the picturesque green of this little town.

"We'll do well here. We'll ... we'll keep them in control," he told me, frowning slightly at the inevitable question about the breakthrough of the Rev Pat Robertson's "invisible army" in Iowa. A better response came to him as he was about to plunge into the local council office to sign more autographs. "I'm not running against him or anybody. I'm running because of what I stand for, because I want to advance ideas."

Mr Kemp's campaign had been doing well here. A poll taken before the Iowa result put him within two points of Senator Robert Dole, reflecting a recent and long-awaited surge of support. But the Robertson phenomenon appears, at least temporarily, to have disorientated him.

The former television evangelist has rolled into this small state with enthusiasm and momentum, and seems intent on overtaking Mr Kemp on the right. Senator Dole, moving aggressively, is coming up fast on Mr Kemp's left as he tries to mobilize the anti-Bush conservatives in an attempt to repeat his Iowa victory.

The Kemp campaign professes a nonchalant confidence. In Iowa, his staff explains, only a minority takes part in the complicated caucus process, and the organization of Mr Robertson's determined followers made all the difference; in New Hampshire, where a bigger proportion takes part in the straight primary vote, Mr Kemp's appeal to a broader base will translate into more votes.

Mr Robert Smith, one of the two congressmen for New Hampshire, a ruggedly individualist state (its motto "Live Free or Die" still graces car number plates), said, as he accompanied Mr Kemp on his walkabout, that it does not like to take its cue from Iowa. Of its two congressmen and two



senators, one of each has endorsed Mr Kemp. An impressive total of 25 congressional colleagues backs him.

New Hampshire is natural territory for the feisty representative for Buffalo. It has very low taxes, is strongly conservative, holds President Reagan in high regard and is enjoying an economic boom.

Mr Kemp, who regards himself as the natural heir to the first six years of the Reagan Administration (but not the seventh), is also outspoken – indeed, almost zany – in his enthusiasm for his causes.

These include a return to the gold standard, lower taxes to continue the supply-side economic revolution – for which he was largely responsible in Congress – deep scepticism about the Soviet Union and unshakeable personal optimism.

Until recently, this did not catch on here as he had expected. Mr Pete Du Pont won the once-vital endorsement of the *Union-Leader*, the state's influential right-wing paper. Vice-President George Bush and Mr Dole stayed well ahead in the polls.

Conservative activists, who had been expected to cheer him on, damned him with faint praise. He gave a lacklustre performance in television debates, with a message that seemed muddled to most viewers. Until last month there were strong rumours that he would withdraw.

But like the American football quarterback he once was, he has fought back doggedly, spending more time here than any Republican except Mr Du Pont. He has brought some ideological passion to the stump, preaching unshackled capitalism as the answer to most economic ills. He has won endorsement from activist groups who want abortions outlawed and those who do not want guns controlled.

He has begun to run some sharp television advertisements, ignoring Mr Robertson but lumping together Mr Bush and Mr Dole as men who would raise taxes, raise heating costs – through an oil import fee – and cut social security.

It seems at last to be paying off. But many wonder whether Mr Kemp, who favours a host of new programmes, is not as fuzzy on economics as is Senator Paul Simon among the Democrats. Mr Dole, with typical waspish insight, called him the "candidate of the free lunch". Mr Kemp's open-armed populist style is also anathema to some right-wingers, who exclude certain types of people and beliefs from their world. They do not share his insistence on bringing minorities, union members, working-class voters and other traditionally Democratic groups into the Republican Party.

More a populist libertarian than a conservative, Mr Kemp may be in danger of falling between two stools – "not hard enough for the hard right, and among regular Republicans he sounds like a wild man", as one analyst said.

He may be hoping to pick up support that is ebbing from Mr Bush here. But he needs to take on Mr Robertson head-on and beat him decisively, while he has the chance.

It will be much harder later, as the campaign moves into the Bible Belt. Mr Kemp has neither the money nor support to survive another fourth-place outcome.

Angry farmers go ploughing near Eiffel Tower



Police surrounding farmers who showed their disapproval of EEC farm policies yesterday by ploughing up the lawns of the Champs de Mars around the Eiffel Tower (Susan MacDonald writes from Paris). About 50 farmers staged the protest to coincide with the EEC summit meeting in Brussels. The national secretary of the Farmers' Confederation, M José Bove, said that the Champs de Mars was the only real field in Paris: "It's been covered in grass for too long; now's the time to grow some crops." The power of farmers in France is such that the French Prime Minister, M Jacques Chirac, who is running for President, cannot afford to arouse their anger with the election only three months away. The Ministry of Agriculture played down the protest.

Deadlocked leaders queue up for Kohl's EEC 'confessional'

From Richard Owen, Brussels

The key incident in the deadlocked EEC special summit on the budget crisis took place yesterday morning, as leaders reassembled after a first day of efforts only to find that senior officials who had been asked to resolve the agriculture impasse had failed to produce any acceptable compromise.

Left with nothing on paper to discuss, the leaders were called in, one by one, to an ante-room to one side of the European Council chamber to hold bilateral talks – "confessionals" in summit jargon – with Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Herr Kohl has had the impossible task of finding common ground while somehow also defending German national interests and German farmers prior to local elections.

In the absence of a specific set of proposals, the leaders sat around in desultory discussion while Herr Kohl saw each by turn. "After the first day of hard bargaining, the steam has gone out of it all," one official said.

The summit came to life again only in the afternoon, when Herr Kohl held his last "confessional" with Mrs Thatcher, who, because of her opposition to previously proposed farm controls on the grounds that they were far too weak, held the key to success or failure. She stood fast, "taking the Chancellor through the pain threshold," in the words of one diplomat. "Herr Kohl was stunned," one German official said.

The compromise paper which finally did take shape was even more unacceptable to Britain than earlier packages, leading some officials to accuse Herr Kohl of trying to isolate Mrs Thatcher in order to blame her for the deadlock.

British officials nonetheless insisted that it was not simply "Maggie versus the rest" – as it had been at previous summits in Copenhagen in December and in Brussels last June. This time the Franco-German alliance against rigorous farm controls was as much to blame. West German officials even clashed with the European Commission, which wanted curbs on farm spending as close as possible to the relatively rigorous plan put forward a year ago by M Jacques Delors, then the Commission's President.

When, in the cold light of a February morning, the Germans discreetly sounded out Britain, The Netherlands and France about a deal, it became clear that the divide between the British and the Dutch on the one hand and the French and the Germans on the other had not closed.

The compromise involved a ceiling of 160 million tonnes on cereals output this year, gradually falling by 1992 to 156 million tonnes, together with cereals price cuts of 9 per cent. The reaction was fierce. The British and Dutch argued that every million tonnes over 155 million tonnes would cost the EEC an extra £400 million a year between now and 1992.

M Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister, said nothing less than 160 million tonnes would do. Quietly, the compromise that never was received a swift burial and the summit meeting ran into the doldrums.

The later proposal, which followed the crucial Kohl-Thatcher encounter, came down firmly on the side of France, and therefore of Germany, which also wants to protect its farmers but is obliged to seek a compromise because it currently holds the Presidency. The "final" offer stuck at a ceiling of 160 million tonnes of cereals, with price cuts of only 3 per cent beginning next year rather than this year, and with a guideline for farm spending above the £19 billion a year demanded by Britain.

But it may be argued that the pass had really been sold on Thursday evening, when Herr Kohl, trying to drive the summit forward, organized "a working dinner" instead of a formal banquet. In a workaday dining room close to the Council chamber, the leaders talked on as they ate.

Mrs Thatcher, in one of the few glimmers of light during the summit, had earlier struck a deal with Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, under which the northern countries would agree to increase regional aid for the south. In return, Spain and other southern countries would back Britain's demand for rigorous farm controls.

Things appeared to be moving forward. But in what is seen as a failure in leadership, Herr Kohl allowed the talk to ramble on, with discursive speeches on European unity.

It was left to Mrs Thatcher to protest, over the peaches in honey, that the debate was failing disastrously to focus on the main issues. "We are running away from the problem of food surpluses," she declared angrily. "The problem has faced us for eight years."

But by then it was too late, and the officials, in the absence of firm guidance, worked through the night in vain.

"We seem to have taken a step backward since the Copenhagen summit in December," was one comment from a senior British official. "But we know what we want. And we know that it will be achieved eventually."

Israelis kill two boys in Nablus

From Ian Murray
Jerusalem

Friday prayers ended with violence in many towns and villages of the Israeli occupied territories yesterday, with two boys, one aged 12, shot dead in Nablus, the largest West Bank town.

As the Palestinian death toll in the two months of unrest reached 56, the two party leaders in Israel's coalition Government remained bitterly divided about how to react to America's initiative aimed at producing a settlement and restoring calm.

Yesterday's violence was worst in Nablus, where a 10-day curfew had ended only two days before. A fierce demonstration started after the noon prayers, and troops resorted to live ammunition to break it up.

A boy aged 12 was shot in the head, and a 17-year-old died from a bullet in the heart. Palestinian sources said there were other gunshot casualties.

Protests were also reported in the large West Bank towns of Ramallah, Hebron and Halhoul. In the Gaza Strip, where curfews were imposed again, there were incidents in the Beach camp at Deir el-Balah, and in five other towns.

With the Army at full stretch to contain the disturbances, it was disclosed on Thursday evening that it had foiled an attempt by three Palestinian gunmen to infiltrate from Egypt on February 5.

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud Prime Minister, yesterday accused the Labour Party and its leader, Mr Shimon Peres, the Foreign Minister, of undermining the chances of a unified Israeli stand in the Middle East peace process.

In a speech to the Labour Party Central Committee, Mr Peres had said: "We are prepared to live in peace with this accelerated timetable because we believe that only a strong, vigorous and accelerated action in the political field will indeed bring about a solution of the issue and a calming in the field."

Mr Shamir blamed Mr Peres for "over-eagerness" in welcoming US proposals for a speeded-up peace process. These include an international "opening", leading to discussions on a three-year interim autonomy arrangement for the occupied territories.

● **Kinnock trip:** Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, will visit Israel and the occupied West Bank next week.

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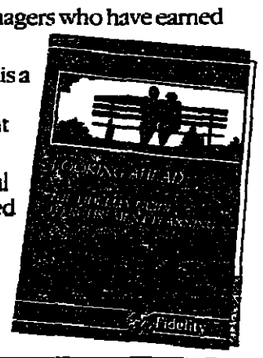
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Coup exposes truth of Botha homelands

From Michael Hornsby
Mmabatho, Bophuthatswana

The immigration formalities at the shiningly new and cavernously empty Mmabatho International Airport, with its almost three-mile-long runway built to take Jumbo jets, are as tenuous as the sovereignty of Bophuthatswana, the "country" it serves.

When I arrived – the sole passenger on one of the 18-seat turbo-prop planes which shuttle daily between Mmabatho and Johannesburg and are the only "international" traffic the airport ever sees – I headed for a counter grandly labelled "Foreign Countries".

The trappings of independence – an airline, radio and television stations, a well-equipped university and futuristic government and commercial buildings in this expanding capital city – look more impressive in Bophuthatswana than in any of the other tribal states created by Pretoria.

But the reality was cruelly exposed last Wednesday when South African troops, planes and armoured cars intervened to restore to power Bophuthatswana's President, Chief Lucas Mangope, after he had been overthrown by rebel soldiers in his own small army.

Although the coup was naive and amateurish in its execution, with elements of pure comic opera, it had the tacit support of most of the black members of the Army and police force, who took no action to prevent it. If Pretoria had not stepped in, it would undoubtedly have succeeded.

Hauled out of his bed at 2.30am by young members of the 1,000-strong Bophuthatswana National Security Unit which guards government buildings, the 64-year-old President was taken, still in his pyjamas, to the grandiose Independence Stadium and held in the presidential suite there.

Held prisoner with him were other officials and more than a dozen white South Africans holding senior government and military positions. They included Brigadier Hennie Riekert, the Minister of Defence, and Major-General Jack Turner, the chief of the 3,500-man Bophuthatswana Defence Force (BDF), as the Army is known.

Chief Mangope, according to his own account, was ordered to sign resignation papers and threatened with shooting and death by burning if he did not do so. He responded by singing hymns, which nonplussed his inexperienced captors who were eventually caught off guard and overpowered by the military men.

The President and his colleagues were still prisoners in the stadium, which was guarded by other rebels, but they managed to find a broken telephone, mend it and call the South African Embassy, where other members of the Government had taken refuge. From that moment on the coup was doomed.

Outside the stadium there was evidence of popular support for the coup, particularly at the university where more than 100 students chanting "tyranny is over" went on the rampage, destroying the kitchen quarters and damaging the library and computer centre. The university has been closed indefinitely.

The leader of the coup was alleged to be Sergeant-Major Timothy Phiri, a young member of the National Security Unit, whose wife worked as a secretary for Mr Peter "Rocky" Malebane-Metsing, who was installed as President in place of Chief Mangope for about 15 hours on Wednesday.

Mr Malebane-Metsing was the leader of the opposition People's Progressive Party, which won six of the 72 elected seats in the local assembly last October and might have won more if it had not been for alleged voting irregularities now being examine by the Supreme Court.

The fatal miscalculation was to assume that the South Africans would not step in. The rebels had taken their cue from Pretoria's acceptance of the outcome of a similar coup in the Transkei homeland in the Eastern Cape last December. But the result of that coup had suited, and may even have been engineered by, Pretoria.

Bophuthatswana was different. It is regarded as a model "Bantustan", and Chief Mangope had achieved a measure of international respectability, at least in conservative circles.

The homeland also contains the world's largest platinum mines and thus, unlike other such tribal territories, is of economic importance.

"We are back in full control," President Botha declared when he appeared before the television cameras with a shaken Chief Mangope at the South African Embassy here on Wednesday night after the coup had been crushed.

He then quickly added: "The President of Bophuthatswana is in full control." It was a slip of the tongue which spoke volumes.

Johannesburg – One of the leaders of the abortive coup in Bophuthatswana was arrested yesterday (AFP reports). The homeland's Foreign Minister, Mr Solomon Rathebe, told a press conference that Sergeant-Major Timothy Phiri had been arrested near Mmabatho. He added that captured rebels would face charges of high treason and would begin appearing in court on Monday.

هكذا من الاصل

The Noriega connection: secret witness tells of narcotics flights from Colombia

Evidence growing of CIA's alliance with drug barons

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

With allegations mounting of bizarre dealings between Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North and General Manuel Noriega, Panama's *de facto* leader, long-standing charges of an unholy alliance between the CIA and Colombia's cocaine barons in the Iran-Contra scandal are fast gathering further credence here.

General Noriega has long been thought virtually to have sold his country to the "Medellin cartel", the drug cabal centred on Colombia's second city and said to control 80 per cent of the world's cocaine business.

American lawyers in Florida this month announced criminal indictments against the general, accusing him of having accepted $4.6 million (£2.6 million) from Colombia's drug barons for allowing more than 4,000lb of cocaine to be shipped through Panama to the United States, and of having conspired to smuggle into the US and distribute 1,000,000lb of marijuana.

Simultaneously, Señor José Blandón, until recently Panama's Consul-General in New York and a former political adviser to General Noriega, claimed that Colonel North once conspired with the general to dispatch and then intercept a shipment of East German weapons to guerrillas in El Salvador.

The motive behind the alleged conspiracy, apparently never realized, was to blame Managua for having supplied the arms, so bolstering the US Administration's charges that the Sandinistas are "exporting revolution" in Central America. Colonel North is also said to have persuaded the general to allow Contra troops to train in Panama.

Rumours have long been rife in both Central America and Colombia that the former National Security Council aide forged a marriage of convenience with the drugs mafia to help his aid network to the Contras.

But if one witness is to be believed, Colonel North and his colleagues were soon out of their depth and — echoing the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, on the fiasco in US overtures to the ayatollahs — "were taken to the cleaners". Ironically, a central figure in this new chapter of the Iran-Contra affair is Señor Jorge Luis Ochoa Vásquez, a senior Colombian cocaine baron arrested in November but let out of jail in Bogotá a month later.

Señor Ochoa's release, on a judge's order without the Government's knowledge, led to a crisis in relations with Washington, which had been seeking his extradition, and led to reprisals against Colombian exports to the US. He and other members of the cartel have since been held responsible for the murder last month of the Colombian Attorney-General, Carlos Mauro Hoyos Jiménez, a strong advocate of extradition.

For months the Colombian press has been chronicling evidence of alleged ties between the CIA and the cartel. The arrangement was allegedly designed by Colonel North to use the cartel's smuggling expertise to keep arms flowing to the Nicaraguan insurgents, in violation of the Boland congressional amendment, which had cut off the military aid urged by President Reagan.

Much of the evidence seems to have been confirmed last year by two convicted cartel functionaries in secret testimony to a US Senate subcommittee on narcotics.

In essence, it is alleged that Contra bases in Central America were used as way stations for cocaine cargoes from Colombia. A fleet of aircraft belonging to a cartel-owned air charter company in Miami then made a series of CIA arms deliveries to the Contras. On their unhindered return flights to Florida, the cargo holds were full of cocaine.

Some CIA arms were sent direct to Colombia and then delivered by the cartel to the Contras. For this "good will" on the part of the CIA, the cartel allegedly paid $10 million to the rebels, most of which was pocketed by them.

Colonel North and his colleagues were, however, hoodwinked by the Colombian *narcotraficantes*, according to an interview in the respected Colombian magazine, *Cromos*, with a Puerto Rican woman who gave evidence last year before the US Senate sub-committee on narcotics. To maintain anonymity, she was dubbed "Wanda Doe" at the hearings.

Unlike other witnesses, she is not a convicted criminal seeking to bargain a reduction to a long jail sentence. Little of her evidence was leaked to the US press, and the *Cromos* interview is her first.

"Wanda Doe", aged 32, is married to a Colombian and lived in this country in the early 1980s. She told the magazine that in May, 1983, she was among a group accompanying Señor Ochoa to a party at the airport in Barranquilla, on Colombia's Caribbean coast, to celebrate the arrival of an ageing C123 cargo aircraft. The American crew unloaded arms from the plane, and its cargo holds were then filled with cocaine.

She says that Señor Ochoa told her: "The gringos would sell their own wives and mothers for drugs." Of the Central American conflict, he is said to have commented: "If you back both sides, you're going to end up well-placed with those who finally win."

In effect, she said, he did exactly that — splitting the CIA arms between the Contras and the Sandinistas.

"Wanda Doe" says that the aircraft she saw in Barranquilla bore the logo of Southern Air, a supposedly private air-freight company since exposed as a CIA front. She also identified the crew as Eugene Hasenfus, an American mercenary, William Cooper, the pilot, and another American, Wallace Sawyer, who were flying the same C123 when it was shot down in Nicaragua while delivering CIA arms to the Contras in October, 1986.

From Washington Mr Jack Blum, the special investigator assigned to the Senate subcommittee which heard her evidence, told *Cromos* he was satisfied that 80 per cent of her evidence was true. He also confirmed that her help in FBI investigations into the drug racket and official corruption in Miami (the cartel's US centre of operations) had led to dozens of arrests.

Envoy in cocaine raid

Miami (AP) — The Colombian vice-consul here, Ernesto Delgado Salasar, aged 48, here and two alleged accomplices have been arrested on cocaine charges. He was arrested yesterday outside a hotel room after allegedly buying 44lb of cocaine from undercover agents. A spokesman for the US Drug Enforcement Administration said that Señor Delgado had told the agents of a "stash house" used to store cocaine profits. The State Department said he did not have diplomatic immunity.



General Noriega, the Panamanian *de facto* leader, defiant in addressing a Panama City rally to mark his birthday. He condemned the United States and vowed: "The fight is not over."

Bitter Contras drink to faded dream of victory

From Charles Bremner, Tegucigalpa, Honduras

The bitterness flowed freely with the booze as the leaders of the Contra army, Nicaragua's would-be liberators, drowned their sorrows this week and worked forlornly on Plan B.

Feeling let down, betrayed, and cut off — just when they thought they were winning — the rebel commanders made no secret of their emotions at a gathering, somewhere in Central America, to work out what to do with their 10,000 to 15,000 men now that the money is drying up.

Colonel Enrique Bermúdez, the former Somoza national guardsman who commands the Contras, puts the best face on what most see as the approaching defeat for the army that President Reagan created to make the Sandinistas "cry uncle". He tells reporters who agree to avoid mentioning his whereabouts: "We will fight on. It's like losing a battle, not a war. Now we have to make every bullet count." Perhaps symbolically, he was drinking good Soviet vodka that night.

Others are more blunt. "The dream is over," one senior rebel said. "Is this what we've taken 6,000 casualties for? We have given our blood with American promises, and now they've washed their hands of us, just like Vietnam and the Bay of Pigs."

With their bargaining power all but gone, the Contras scoff at the notion of an accord coming from their peace talks with the Sandinista Government. They say that their only hope is to fight on, with whatever help they can get.

European diplomats have been speculating that the Contras could be tempted to enter the drug business to try to keep their coffers filled.

The rebels' sense of betrayal goes far beyond the commanders, whose men have over the past year installed themselves in Nicaragua, chalked up some impressive feats against the Sandinista Army, and earned some support from the population.

Honduras, reluctant host to the Contra bases, has been asking the Americans this week what will happen now. After swallowing misgivings and throwing its lot behind the irregulars, Honduras is worried about again finding itself "the ham in the sandwich".

On one side, there could be an unchallenged Nicaraguan build-up. And on the other, there is the possibility of fresh Sandinista support for the formidable Marxist guerrillas in El Salvador.

But more imminent is the dilemma of what to do about the thousands of heavily armed and demoralized men who are likely to pour back across the frontier when supplies run out. The Contra forces — estimated at 16,000 by the commanders and at about 10,000 by diplomats — outnumber the Hondurans' own small ground forces.

In Tegucigalpa, the pretty little hillside capital, hectic talks have been going on all week between the Government of President Azcona, the Honduran military establishment, the Americans and Contra commanders.

Far from the optimism among Democrats in Washington about the Central American peace plan engineered by President Arias of Costa Rica, the mood in the big US Embassy is grim. Words like "disaster" are going the rounds.

Few diplomats or Honduran officials hold out much hope that Nicaragua will comply with the peace plan and persuade the rebels to lay down their arms.

As the CIA rushed in the last air drops before the February 29 aid cut-off, Honduran officials have been warning the rebels publicly to stay on their side of the border. Observers here say that some will stay in the hills to fight a classic guerrilla war, a few will accept amnesty, a considerable number will blend back into their farms, and the rest will head for Honduras.

Ideally, the Contras will hand in their weapons and stay in camps. The Hondurans say that the US has a moral obligation to help the "freedom fighters" who fought their proxy war. But there appears little chance of a mass evacuation to Florida after this version of the Bay of Pigs. As well as the fighters, experts think that thousands of civilians could take a Contra collapse as a signal of Sandinista permanence and flee the country.

More than 100,000 Nicaraguans have taken refuge in Honduras since the 1979 revolution, and about 25,000 are in the care of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. UN officials met this week to decide how to cope with any new flood of emigrés.

The Contras themselves scorn the idea of running away. Señor Bosco Matamoros, the sardonic rebel spokesman, says that they are "a national liberation movement, not an association of refugees," when asked about a proposal by US Democrats for a package of resettlement aid.

"If we have to pull out, it will leave a tremendous void for the Americans to enjoy — and I mean enjoy," he said.

● *NEW YORK:* Big drug operations in Honduras are being set up by senior Honduran Army officers and a powerful drug dealer with past ties to the Panamanian military leader, General Manuel Noriega, *The New York Times* reported US officials and Honduran politicians as saying yesterday.

Spectre of border marijuana trade hangs over US-Mexico summit

From Our Own Correspondent, New York

The spectre of the huge cross-border drug trade will be a stumbling block when President Reagan and President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico meet today to try to look at the good side of their six years as neighbouring leaders.

Both the ebullient Mr Reagan and the quick-witted Señor de la Madrid are lame ducks in the waning months of fixed-term presidencies. This will probably be their last meeting.

Staff on both sides say that the leaders want to use the Pacific resort summit at Mazatlán to review the highs and lows of the always fraught US-Mexican relationship and lay outlines for a North American common market.

American and Mexican officials are basking in the glow of a string of trade and other agreements. These reflect an easing in tensions that reached a climax in 1986 with an eruption of American fury over Mexico's failure to curb the flow of drugs into the United States.

But renewed anxiety in Congress and in the Drug Enforcement Administration in Washington may chill today's talks. The US authorities say that despite an improvement since 1986, corruption and political vacillation in Mexico is allowing dealers in cocaine, marijuana and heroin to maintain a flourishing traffic across the border.

Despite crop eradication, Mexican farmers still produce more of the marijuana entering the United States than any other country, and Mexico is still the biggest transit point for shipments of Colombian cocaine, the drug administration says.

The Mexicans blame the Americans for failing to curb the demand for drugs in their own country.

In two weeks' time, the State Department will issue its annual report on drug trafficking; if it fails to rebuke Mexico, militant congressmen promise to take their own action. Under a 1986 law, the President must certify whether drug-producing countries have done enough to halt trafficking and use trade tariffs to penalize them if they have not. Senator Pete Wilson of California says that he will introduce legislation to penalize Mexico if the report fails to do this.

On the economic front the picture is more rosy. The Reagan Administration and banks joined in January to launch a novel plan to reduce Mexico's crushing $105 billion (£59.7 billion) burden of debt — its worst economic crisis in half a century. Under the scheme banks can exchange bad loans for Mexican securities backed by the US Treasury.

The Americans are happy with Señor de la Madrid's moves to lift heavy import tariffs from the long-protected Mexican economy and pave the way to a free-trade agreement like the new US-Canadian pact.

Though Mr Reagan may not like it, the congressional vote against aid to the Nicaraguan Contras has eased strains over how to handle the Central American conflict. Señor de la Madrid, who has great influence among the non-communist third world bloc, has opposed Washington's attempts to bring down the Sandinista administration.

Madrid responds to Eta truce with hint of talks

From Richard Wigg
Madrid

The Spanish Interior Minister, Señor José Barrionuevo, has signalled to the Basque separatist group Eta that the Government will reopen talks if it continues to refrain from terrorist attacks.

He was speaking in Parliament a fortnight after Eta offered a 60-day truce, the group's first peace offer since it took up arms against the state 30 years ago.

Government sources indicated yesterday that if the lull in Eta's terrorist activities continued, the Government will probably send an emissary to Algeria in the next few weeks to reopen talks with its exiled leaders.

Previous contacts were broken off by the Government of Señor Felipe González after car bomb attack on a Civil Guard barracks in Zaragoza in December in which 11 people died. Señor Barrionuevo spoke of Eta's truce move as a "positive step which reinforces the Government's willingness to be generous".

The Socialist Government has not spelt out the nature of this "generosity", though the Prime Minister has made plain that any pardon for suspected or convicted terrorists — more than 400 of whom are held in Spanish jails — would not extend to those held guilty of causing bloodshed.

Señor Barrionuevo sought to bring pressure on Eta members, emphasizing that the offer to help them "come in from the cold" could not go on indefinitely.

Señor José Ardanza, the Basque Chief Minister, yesterday accused the Socialists of seeking to isolate other Basque political parties so that Madrid can have its hands free in negotiations with Eta.

Relations between the Nationalist Party of the Chief Minister and the Socialists' former coalition government in Vitoria were already strained after the Nationalists criticized the visit this week of King Juan Carlos to neighbouring Navarra. Most political parties in the Basque country fear that they will be left without a role.

Cultural barriers hindering world's fight against Aids

From Cheryl Platzman-Weinstock, Boston

Global efforts to educate high-risk groups about Aids are being complicated by important cultural differences, according to anthropologists at an international conference here.

Mr Richard Parker, of the University of California at Berkeley, for instance, told the American Association for the Advancement of Science yesterday that "a great many Brazilian men who engage in same-sex interaction don't identify themselves as homosexuals or bisexuals".

He said: "This lack of self identification greatly impedes efforts to reach those engaged in high-risk behaviour."

Mr Parker found that not only did the men not identify themselves with the gay movement but that almost 50 per cent of Brazilians considered anal intercourse a normal part of heterosexual activity. If wives or girlfriends refused it, they often turned to a prostitute.

He said that the lack of a gay community which might convey education material about Aids among themselves and the possible widespread prostitution in Brazil increased the urgent need for Government-sponsored Aids educational programmes.

Once sexual practices in the Dominican Republic had been understood, its Government inaugurated an Aids prevention programme, he said. In one year condom use nearly doubled.

Professor Francis Paine, of Hunter College, New York, said that "one should not look at cultural differences as barriers to Aids education. We should use them instead to guide education."

Mr Parker said that a large percentage of Aids education was directed at the white middle-class and that "we ignore sub-cultural groups".

On the issue of cancer, delegates heard a speech from one expert who said that the most prominent cancer-causing chemicals were not being regulated in America.

The warning was issued by Mr Donald Scroggin, a chemist, who said: "In a year the Environmental Protection Agency has directed all its efforts to regulating industrial sources of carcinogens. But those carcinogenic agents causing real risks, like radon, have gone unaddressed."

"Radon found in homes kills from 12,000 to 20,000 people each year," he said.

Mr Scroggin suggested that there should be more discretion on the part of the EPA to choose which risk areas on which to concentrate. He highlighted the Bhopal disaster as a lesson for the future, and appealed for more active use of health-risk assessments.

At the top of his list of concerns is cigarette smoke, which, according to statistics, causes 30 per cent of all cancers, 20 per cent of heart disease and shortens the life of the "two-packs-a-day" smoker by eight years.

● *GENEVA:* An additional 3,519 cases of Aids, mainly in the US, were reported to the World Health Organization last month, raising the global total to 77,266 in 132 countries (Reuter reports).

The WHO says that officially reported cases are only a fraction of the true world total, which it estimates was 150,000 at the beginning of 1988, and likely to double by the end of the year.

Indians swoop on Tamil Tigers

Colombo — The long-awaited Indian offensive against the main Tamil guerrilla group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, was launched yesterday in the Eastern province town of Batticoloa (Vijitha Yapa writes).

As house-to-house searches were conducted, residents of the town said that Indian forces were asking people to assemble in designated places where members of two guerrilla groups, which are rivals of the LTTE, were asked to point out suspected Tigers.

An indefinite curfew has been in force since 6pm on Thursday, and residents fear that the campaign against the Tigers will be a long one, despite the presence of more than 20,000 Indian troops in the Eastern province.

Dramatic end to escape bid

Berlin (AP) — An East German trying to escape to the West crashed into a barrier at a Berlin border checkpoint, then into a car being driven by two Americans, before being captured and led away by communist border guards. No one was injured in the crash.

Gibraltar poll

Gibraltar — The colony's voters will go to the polls on March 24 with the Socialist opposition leader, Mr Joe Bossano, in a strong position to defeat the ruling party of Mr Adolfo Canepa.

Crash kills 22

Moscow (Reuter) — Twenty-two people were killed when their bus was struck by a train in the town of Totskoye in south-east Russia.

Change at top

Antananarivo (AFP) — The Prime Minister of Madagascar, Colonel Désiré Rakotoarijaona, has resigned for health reasons and been replaced by Lieutenant-Colonel Victor Ramahatra, the Minister of Public Works.

Priest to die

Colombo (Reuter) — A 71-year-old Sri Lankan Anglican priest, Matthew Peiris, lost his appeal against a death sentence for murdering his wife and his mistress's husband.

Drug arrests

Marseilles (Reuter) — Police announced the break-up of an international heroin smuggling ring, saying they had made 30 arrests in France and Canada this week.

Oil sabotaged

Bogotá (AFP) — Suspected guerrillas dynamited two oil pipelines near Alvarado in central Colombia, spilling thousands of barrels of oil and causing serious pollution.

Airbus held

Lagos (AP) — The French authorities have impounded a Nigeria Airways Airbus because of an unpaid debt of $13 million, officials said.



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President 'raised his voice and went bright red in the face'

Historian dismisses Waldheim evidence as 'a waste of time'

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

A member of the historical commission which investigated the wartime past of President Waldheim of Austria revealed yesterday that his questioning had been "a complete waste of time", as he had responded by losing his temper and raising his voice.

Mr Yehuda Wallach, the Israeli member of the commission, said that, during its questioning of Dr Waldheim on January 28, he had lost his temper when shown a map of Salonika illustrating that his office was so close to a Jewish cemetery destroyed by the Nazis that he could not possibly have been unaware of its devastation.

Dr Waldheim has maintained complete ignorance of any Jewish deportations, or indeed actions against Jews, in the city.

Mr Wallach said: "He raised his voice and went bright red in the face."

The precise exchange, published in the official protocol yesterday, highlights the problems the commission faced in their questioning of the President. It reads:

Wallach: "How was it you did not know?"

Waldheim: "I was not there at this time."

Wallach: "You were there some of the time."

Waldheim: "This disagrees with the standard work on the deportation of Jews from Salonika written by Hilbert. Herr Wiesenthal (head of the Jewish Documentation Centre in Vienna) said to me on this matter: 'You were not a Nazi, nor a war criminal. Why don't you admit that you knew about these Jewish deportations?'

"I really did not know. From November, 1942, to April, 1943, I was in Tirana or on study leave in Vienna ... I deeply regret this tragedy, but as I've always said, I was not often, and then only briefly, in Salonika."

Wallach: "This is about the deportation of 50,000 Jews. A quarter of the population of Salonika suddenly vanished. It must have crossed your mind that, for example, many shops were closed."

Waldheim: "I have the deepest respect for your opinion and I share your horror over these terrible events ... during my brief period in Salonika I saw not a single Jew with a yellow star."

As well as this exchange, the historians' commission found itself embroiled in more controversy yesterday when the former Austrian Foreign Minister, Herr Karl Gruber, who first employed Dr Waldheim shortly after the end of the war, criticized the historians' findings vehemently.

The commission found that Dr Waldheim had not been "actively involved" in war crimes, but that he had later attempted to cover up his knowledge of their occurrence.

Dr Waldheim was able yesterday to take comfort from the influential West German daily, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*.

Its cartoon summed up the sentiments of many Austrians, and perhaps also of Germans, who feel that Dr Waldheim has been criticized unfairly for his activities during the war.

It showed a midget Lieutenant Waldheim running across an airfield to give six giant Nazi generals the warning: "Stop the offensive; I'll be in difficulties later."

Leading article, page 13



Dr Waldheim standing for the Austrian national anthem in his private box at the Vienna Opera on Thursday evening.

Howe will ask Russia to let refusenik Jews join families in Britain

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Two middle-aged Soviet Jews, who have been fighting separately for the right to join family members living in London, spoke to *The Times* yesterday about the high hopes for their departure they are pinning on the visit by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, which starts when he flies to Moscow tomorrow.

The two are the only refuseniks on an original list, handed to the Kremlin last spring during the visit by Mrs Thatcher, who are still barred from leaving.

Both have been promised that Sir Geoffrey will champion their fight after private meetings he held recently in London with their relatives.

"I shall be coming to Moscow on Monday. I believe that Sir Geoffrey's visit could change the whole course of my life," explained Mrs Rima Sosna, aged 58, a widow living alone in Leningrad who has been refused 20 times in her attempt to secure permission to join her son Boris, aged 36, now a London antiques dealer, his wife Claire, and their two children.

Mrs Sosna's case was last raised by Sir Geoffrey when he met his Soviet counterpart, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, at RAF Brize Norton during his stopover on the way to the Washington summit. British officials believe there are strong humanitarian reasons for letting her leave.

"I have been applying without success to leave since 1974, but they continue to turn me down on the grounds that I know state secrets. It is so absurd that I do not know whether to laugh or cry," Mrs Sosna said.

"I believe that they must mean the job I once held in the field of telephones, but I left that in 1973. Nothing I ever knew could be secret any more."

Since Mrs Sosna first applied to leave with her mother and her husband, Yajob, a Second World War invalid, both have died and her son was even refused permission to return on a visit from England to attend his father's funeral.

Mrs Sosna, who does translation work to bolster her state pension, remains remarkably cheerful. "My natural desire is to spend the remaining years of my life with my son and two grandchildren in London," she said.

"I remain optimistic that eventually the authorities will see there is no harm in that."

In Moscow, Mrs Sosna will make contact with Mr Anatoly Shustov, a 43-year-old garage security guard, who has been waiting in vain since 1975 for an exit visa to join his journalist father, Leonid, who lives in London and broadcasts on the BBC Russian service.

Mr Shustov is the other name at the top of Sir Geoffrey Howe's list for visas.

"The ironic thing is that I can hear my father's voice over the air waves, but I cannot see him," said Mr Shustov, who lives in a one-roomed Moscow flat. "Of course, my main reason to want to live in England is to be with him. But I also want to live there because it is a proper democracy."

Mr Shustov, who is taking lessons in an effort to improve his poor English, last saw his 64-year-old father in 1966 when he left Moscow for England on a tourist trip and decided never to return. He now broadcasts for the BBC on scientific subjects.

"All my applications to go to join him have been rejected," Mr Shustov said yesterday. "It seems that the authorities are determined to take their revenge on me because my father left the country illegally."

Last November, Ovir — the Soviet visa organization — changed tack and claimed that the reason why Mr Shustov was being refused permission to join his father in England was his knowledge of state secrets — now one of the main reasons for turning down requests by Soviet Jews to leave the country.

"The only way I could possibly have known a secret was in the Army, but that was more than 20 years ago," said Mr Shustov, who is divorced and has a 16-year-old daughter, Masha, living in Moscow.

"I never practised my profession as an engineer. They seem to want to stop me leaving at any cost."

The presence of the two refuseniks in Moscow will ensure a high humanitarian, as well as political, profile for Sir Geoffrey's three-day stay in the Soviet Union.

● **Agenda topics:** Besides his talks with Mr Shevardnadze, Sir Geoffrey is expected to meet Mr Mikahil Gorbachov on Tuesday.

Key issues will be prospects for an East-West strategic arms treaty; Mr Gorbachov's offer to begin withdrawing troops from Afghanistan on May 15, Britain's wish to conclude a United Nations Security Council arms embargo resolution against Iran, and human rights in the Soviet Union.

Sir Geoffrey is expected to come under pressure to say at what stage Britain would be willing to begin reducing its own strategic weapons, including the Trident programme. He will say that the Government will not consider cuts unless Moscow and Washington first achieve strategic reductions far greater than the 50 per cent now proposed.

Although Anglo-Soviet relations have greatly improved, two serious obstacles remain: the estimated 120,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan, and human rights.

Sir Geoffrey will welcome Mr Gorbachov's withdrawal offer, but will press him to confirm that it will begin on May 15.

The Soviet leader's announcement this week made it conditional on success being achieved at proximity talks in Geneva on March 2, but subsequent Soviet statements have suggested that a pull-out might begin even without agreement.

Peking — The official New China News Agency yesterday criticized the Soviet Union's conditions for withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan, in Peking's first direct comment on the latest peace moves (Reuter reports). A commentary said Russia had not changed its goal of "organizing" a future Kabul government, and that much blood could be spilled before the Afghan rebels allowed that to happen.

Thousands protest at Japan's 'Chernobyl' test

From David Watts
Tokyo

Thousands of Japanese demonstrators held a second day of peaceful protest at a nuclear power plant yesterday, as its management ran a controversial reactor experiment.

It was the country's largest show of opposition for many years to the civilian use of atomic energy, bringing together families and pressure groups in a coalition led by housewives, who claim to have more than 800,000 signatures on an anti-nuclear petition. The focus of the 3,000 protesters was the Ikata nuclear power plant, on the island of Shikoku, some 350 miles west of Tokyo, where they alleged that a "Chernobyl-style" test was being conducted.

The local electric company was running a "load-following" experiment, in which reactor activity is reduced rapidly to 50 per cent of normal and then just as quickly returned to full power. It was during such an adjustment that the Chernobyl nuclear accident happened.

The management denies any parallel with Chernobyl, but the protest movement claims to have information from inside the plant that the company lost control of the reactor temporarily during a previous test, when it was under manual regulation.

The objectors received messages of support from Three Mile Island, the American site of a nuclear incident in 1979, and from West Germany. A Japanese nun started the fourth day of a hunger strike outside the plant with several companions who joined her on Thursday, a national holiday and the beginning of the protest.

The anti-nuclear movement in Japan, no longer backed enthusiastically by the Socialist Party, is strongly against the experiment, as it says it heralds the beginning of such adjustments as a matter of daily operational procedure to match electricity demand without regard to the potentially disastrous effects.

The change was made exceptionally quickly, at more than 16 per cent an hour, compared with 3 per cent for similar operations in the West, according to a Japanese physicist opposed to the test.

The management ignored the protesters and refused to supply any information on the experiment. One demonstrator declared: "There could be an accident in there, and we would know nothing about it."

The anti-nuclear movement says that the risk is doubly unncessary, since Japan can meet all its power needs from conventional plants. At the moment, 35 nuclear installations deliver 30 per cent of Japan's energy requirements and another 16 are planned. But protesters have already been successful in preventing the siting of another plant in Shikoku.

The company made its employees report early for work yesterday — an hour before the first protesters set up outside the plant gates at 7am and two hours before the reduction in output began. Three rows of riot police and a barbed-wire barricade prevented a decidedly festive protest getting near the plant.

Mrs Mariko Obata, one of the organizers of the anti-nuclear movement, said that its ultimate aim was the abandonment of all things nuclear.

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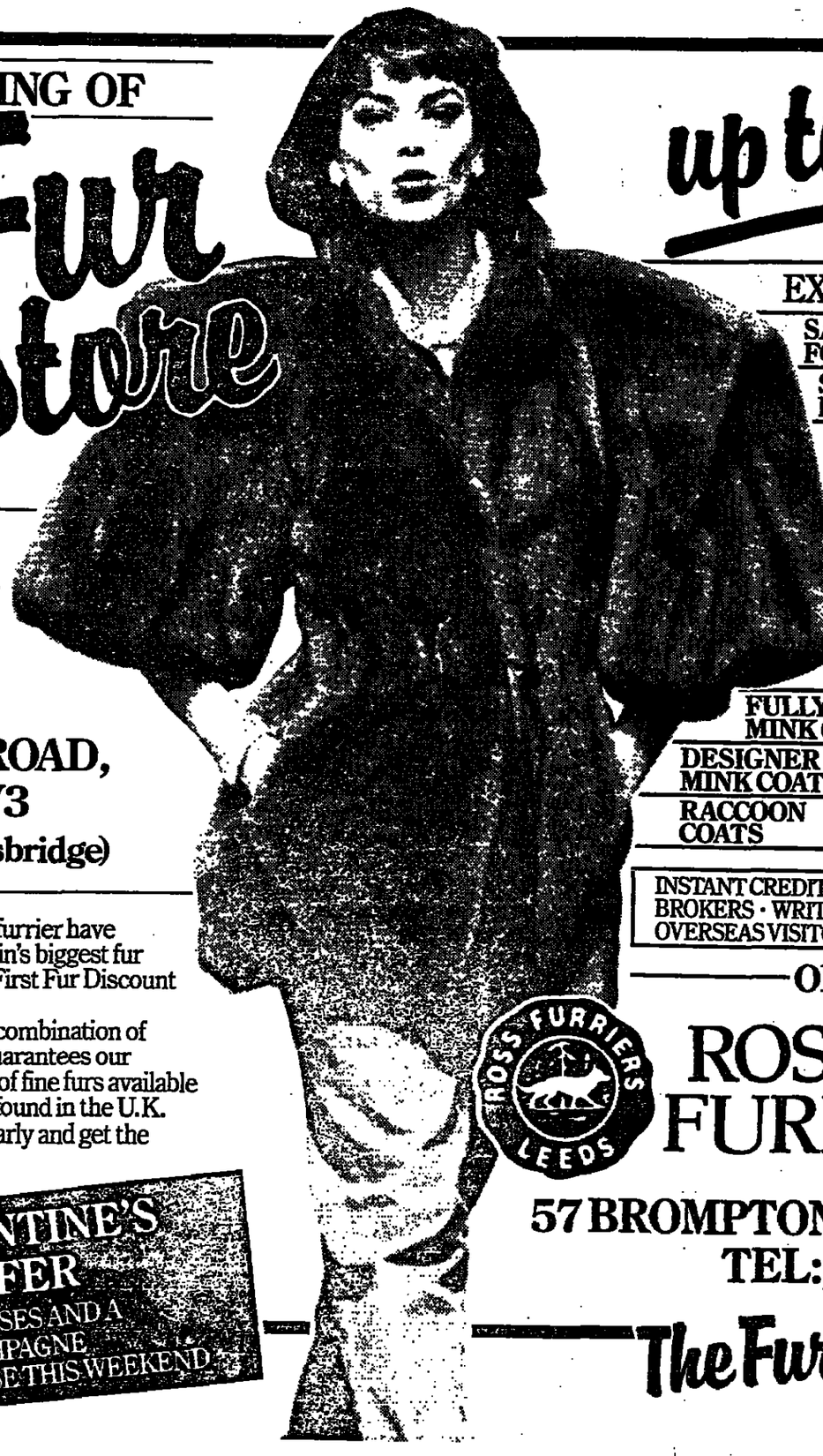
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VALENTINE MESSAGES

JW LUW BP XXXXXXXXXXX JW LUW BP.

CHRISTIAN Aid Legs - Love you lots - Rabbit.

TO BEZ - My Valentine for over twenty-five years. All my love Tony.

TRACY JANE. Floppy ears loves his london guide. always a lady to me.

VERONIQUE, tu est speciale. Je t'aime. Amour C xxxxxxx.

WW, all the world and tea in China. FF.

5 years on, how time does fly. With never a doubt, Nary a sigh. Oh I love my Possum Pie.

"A. with love. I left the room with silent dignity but caught my foot in the mat". P.D. W'aight to A.E. Waight.

A 1000 words cannot say how much A loves B today:- It's too expensive.

A) You're adorable.
B) You're so beautiful.
C) You're a cutiepie!

A very special little girl is loved by teddy bear. VVM LLY.

A- Yet if you know you have it, you may take it and know that you still have it. P.

A. Four years nearly. Last year the best, many more. Love J.

A.E. remember remember the 12th of September. 3,000 ft. over the Atlantic. Love Trich.

A.R.A. Happy Valentines Day. Roger the Oxford Lodger. With buckets of love, your Landlady.

A1 - To the exclusion of all others - A2.

AAARHHDEL Lindy Lou. Love you for ever. Erik.

ABBY darling. Interim result: substantial protein, outstanding levels of growth with 1st-rate prospects for future. All love, your partner at Stittrack & Co. XX.

ABI Just twelve words to say "I Love You", three times over.

ACCORDING to Gittt. Peter will always love you very much Cherilyn.

ADORABLE Ian Hallett, be our valentine and don't forget our cat food! xxx

ADORABLE I will always dig up my bone for you. Love always. Cheeky

A HYPERINTELLIGENT megabeing! and gorgeous too! loves you.

A-I We love you, for the apples, the Mister Dogs, the cuddling & for everything. Paddy, Max, Hodge & Co.

AILEEN What can I say if words are not enough, all my love always from me.

ALEX Warren, words can't explain so enjoy the champagne and me! E.

ALEXANDRA Queen of Sex. Baby Doll. Honey Pie. Poop-a-woop-al-wop, now Mummy - I love you - Mark.

ALI, all my love, you ooh pooh Elly Bo. From Pooh Bear. G.

ALI happy valentines day, romance is still alive, my love forever, Trevor.

ALI - Happy Valentines Day baby boy - I love ya lots - Jaynie.

ALISON My darling wife with love on Valentines Day - all my love Simon XXX

ALISON BATEMAN *sorry* been thank you for everything love you always Tony

ALISON G. Takida tara, talk again, love you always. be with me. GORDON.

A LITTLE DEVIL - Light of my life. You open up your love to me, take my hand because you have captured my heart enticing it within your wonderous being for ever. I.L.V. Eros.

ALL the roads in this world and all the lanes in our country would mean nothing but for my street. Love, your traveller.

ALL the world this day, I tell Arthur love his wonderful Christabel.

ALL my love for ever and ever to the kindest most loving and giving wife from her Tassidi.

ALL my love to my Sue best wife and friend love David

ALL my love to my darling Richard today and always - Marlene.

ALL my love to Marilly, the little big girl that influenced my life. Michael.

ALLEZ BRATTLE! Boggy alone and hoping, loves you now and forever.

ALL MY LOVE BILING, love you forever and always. Tony

ALL OUR LOVE - to our Valentine Ruthie from Pippi and the gorgeous Woosies.

ALZI Paizi - Together our dreams can come true. Love and cuddles. Pidi.

AMANDA - An orchid amongst roses. Happy Valentines. Your Man For All Seasons.

AMANDA - I love you. Mark.

AMAZING Ace I love you dearly please be my valentine luv xxoxa.

AMELIE I love you from afar. Find Orion tonight and feel closer, your Yeti.

AMERICAN Pusspat I shall love you Aviemore. Prune.

A MESSAGE From a big Bear to his little Piglet - " I love you forever and ever."

ANDREA - The Cuddly Snuggle, I Love You.

ANDREA! but I think I prefer Beverley. Happy Valentines Day. Pacman.

ANDREW - Remember the Swan Hotel!!! How about a repeat performance on the promenade With fondest love Wifie. xxxxx

ANDREW Yum Yum Yum Rachel.

ANDREW darling. I love you more and more each year xxxxx Christina.

ANDREW You are all the world to me. I love you. Wombat.

ANDY follow forever, moments and you will find me there loving you. Always, from BIG UGE

ANDY our love for you grows everyday, so with this message I want to say, that I hope this feeling lasts forever and we remain in love together. Laine xx.

ANGE I want the nation to know how much I love you. Your Husband Tony.

ANGIE PANGIE I love you. Angie Pangie you know I do.

ANITA Thank you for your early present on 22nd July 87. Love you always Raj.

ANITA sweetest sweet - the love I live, the dream I know. Your loving Valentine

ANITA My Valentine. I Love you. Big Micky.

ANN my love for you is like vintage wine, fortified and forever. Terry.

ANNA Elizabeth - another year of bliss. I love you so. Marty Owen.

ANNABEL. Always remember your gorgeous frog is not so secret admirer.

ANNE Need you, want you, love you for ever, always yours, Paul.

ANNE. God made the sun, trees, mountains and our love. David.

ANNIE - Your eyes are like the blue water of that beautiful harbour - love from P. Green Pommie B xxxxxxxxxx

ANNIE - I love you and I always will. You are my treasure. Pete.

ANNIE. Your Dec-Poos loves and kisses you very much.

ANNIE. I simply love you more each day. Yours lovingly Supertie.



ANNIE Owl of Stratton. All love from Kingston. Your Tony.

ANNIE, happy valentines day, not long to go now, love you more and more each day. Walter.

ANN L. with all my love, Fred.

ANNWYL Llany. You are the cherry on my cheesecake of life. Xxx00xx00xx00x. Dwi'n caru 'chdi popli.

ANNY Fanny Wanny Fanny Jep Ebber Dig From Ikey Bissy Wissy Clarksy.

ANTONIO Will you have this give-us-a-cuddle-woman to be your lawful wedded wifeus?

A PINCH of Probably is worth a Pound of Perhaps x x.

APPLETREE BUNNYTRAINER With love from your girls, Poppet, Carrie, Amy and Betty.

APRAHAM PARKERMAN The most wonderful husband in the world. Love forever, Dona xxx

ARCTIC without Chipmunk warmth is bleak, cold and meaningless. By Polar Bear.

ARTEMIS may leap year provide your happiness and our togetherness. Teddy.

AS you are now you will always be my one true Val.

ASH. Je T'Adore. Heart of my heart. All my eternal love. PAM.

A SLIGHTLY Different way of sending the same boring but still true message to Mega Star.

ATHENASIAS - Thank you for four years of extraordinary love, laughter and fun. THE BLACK FILOFAX.

AUBREY CAINE My dearest, fondest love I send, from Monsterer, Teakt, Zineb. Do you comprehend.

AUNTIE JANE - Lots of love and hugs, Hawkeyie. xxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxx.

AUSTRALIAN So. Love you So, heaps and heaps.

"B" is my valentine as "R" is for rose. Your Veuve Clicquot.

B. I love thee for all to see all Valentines Days with kisses from James.

B. Of the many pizzas you've tasted, here's love from the ripest and best. J.

B.B. Always my Valentine! Love you so much. L.B

B.B. Little Ashy flames still burn. Remember - 'tis anyone in?' with all my love. O.O.

B.H. - Years for ever and a day. *All my love always.* P.B.

B.H. Most beloved Honeybun, this year and always, my gentle lowly Valentine, T.B.

BA: ABSENCE makes the heart grow fonder. Miss you every day - love you every way.

BAABLING I love you more than cheese and cress, eggs and peas and hams, I love you more than caviar, roast beef and strawberry jam. Bleat

BABY 2 I love you. All my love from Baby 1. Happy Valentines!

BABY must marry Mr Prickle. I.W.Y.

BABY SPOONIE All my love and cuddles and schnuggles always. Donkey xxx

BACON, I'll always love you. Regardless. Never forget this. Darling, love, Dross.

BADGER misses you. Don't leave just footprints in the snow, come out to play.

BADGER Darling, Can't you see. It's still the chemistry. Happy Valentines Day. All my love Seagulle

BAD TIMER - Love unknown lives for your still embrace. Let's meet, whatever.

BARLEY5 The answer is yes. Your question? Dinner tonight. Love the Bitch.

BALDING I may be, tiling I'm not,but be my Valentine, and I'll finish the lot.

BALF. Ursula, Priscilla, the pig and I love ya lots. DJ.

BAMBI. No man could ask for more than you have given. Your enduring love, your pleasure, my lovely daughters, my home, I am content. Love forever, Tony.

BARBARA - All our love. From Gordo and dad. Keep those nappies coming.

BARBARA Dolly. Love ya. The Cwicken and Dwaddy.

BARBARA, Be my beautiful Irish Valentine always. Love, hugs and kisses, Stanley.

BARBARA I love you and I dont care who knows. Love J.xxxx.

BARBARA. My sad, old heart can wish and adore, but after one such love, can love no more.

BARBIE This year and every year it's the same message. Ky-Diggy

BARRY BEAR, will love you forever. thanks for everything darling. Peter Bear.

BARREL BOOY - So many bonny coloured hodgehogs, and still counting! - Toy Boy XXXX.

BARRY Number 3 would like to serve you more than bitter occasionally!

BARRY (Leo Sayer) I always thought my bitten nails were my most attractive feature.

BAZ Stop snap, crackle and popping and become a Weetabix more filling. I love you Dena.

BE my Teddy Bear. This is to show you that I care

BE my *Valentine as always* P.

BEAR - Just as the water's rise & the county flies, so does my love to you - B.

BEAN All my love from the owners of the Mean Machine.

BEAR - I love you even more this year - Maisy

BEAR Get my mind set on you - forever. I love my Chooks. Sweetrod.

BEARSKIN - I love you and want to be with you for ever. All my love Lizzie.

BEARS, love their bears for ever and ever and ever.

BEAUTIFUL MUSIC. Yes an encore, *old flame.* Sarah's glad he found out more.

BERRY - You're my very special person. I love you so much. Bess.

BESSIVE - Our own house soon darling. I love and miss my exclusive mate.

BEEPER and Snooks. IDP loves your Bestest bestest love all ways. MM-B-M.

BELINDA. I was one in 3,500. You are one in a million.

BE MY V darling P. On this day. Bibs A.

BEN - Remember the bacon sandwiches. Continue to be my Valentine. Much love. Number 6, or 7, or 8...

BEN - My Roaring Lion. I love you 28 million times more than the hottest July. Your loving Lioness. XXXXX

"BENN, SOIT QUI BIENN" HON OI) I SOIT QUI HAINE" MAUDIT SOIT QUI MAL" e "I" PENSE. LOVE TRIUMPHS."

BENNY I wolly wolly wuv you tons and tons and lots, Sammy.

BERTIE'S Second Lieutenant loves Tom Sharpe's eighth novel.

BERYL darling - My love for you grows stronger every day - Cyril.

BEST friend of Kanga, many roos - be my Valentine, my own B'roo.

BESTE moeder en vader wil houden van jel Anna. Diggy. Blonde en flarty B.

BEVERLEY, I Love you, now and always will. Marry me soon. Andy

BEYOND the night, across the day, thiro all the world she follow'd him. - Tennyson.

BIG K. Love You More And More Each New Day. Small J.

BIG nosed Wimsell still loves sexy Brenda a great, great, great amount.

BIG EARS You are my Love .....OOOOH you are my lovell Lots of love P... Pig XXX

BIG FLUFF consultant is adored, but not controlled by little fluff manager.

BIGGLES of Payton Drasiow - devasted that I am again 3000 miles away (albeit in the opposite direction); maybe it'll be third time lucky. What a wonderful year we've had - a million memks. Darling. Let's celebrate my return by not going out for curry! Meanwhile, keep petaling. Lots of Luk. Mrs H.

BIG NOSE - Eternally optimistic about future anniversaries. Love you so Big Ears.

BIG TED declares his eternal love for Jemimah, we must be together forever!

BILL - I'm very hungry, please feed me. You Seniorodic Fish.

BILL Many thanks for making me a very happy big and cuddesble Bunny

BILLY B.F.W. Waeren Sie Mein Liebchen fuer Jemals? Girly. F.G.

BIRD BRAIN loves Florence, Blossom, Curly top, hero etc. for ever and ever, even with Pete.

BIRTHDAY VALENTINE All our love for a jolly Sunday. B.B.B.B.+ Dylis & Dec.xxx

BIRTHE The Indian holiday has warned up the winter, 1989 will be the best. love Dick.

BLACK mini loves Red mini - Forever.

BLACK and white cat. All my love Joey.

BLIND Date - dark cupboard. Fire escape. I. and J. you and I. Love you Terry.

BLODDERS. All my love, David.

BLOSKE is this being romantic, funny and imaginative, love Plop.

BLOND BEAST, You are the best. Gym fanatic.

BOBBY Cushings, may the whole world know how much I love you.

BOBBY dooby dooby booby dooby dooby boo - boo be do love is Bod

BOBBIE LESLEY You'll always amaze and attract me. Love you forever. RV.

BOO: with lots of love and tons of kisses. Forever yours from the unknown admirer.

BOOSE Still looking forward 1 year, 2 months, 9 days to go. Love your Booberoony.

BOOBLES: You are my valentine. You're Boobles.

BOOBY - I love you lots, Booby.

BOODLE-POPETTE Dancing at the Terrace with all my love Mankind Bear.

BOOTS love is greater eight years on. Tess

BOSTON Girss. Looking forward to our Spring bonus. Love you. Big Al.

BOSSFILES, You are my once in a lifetime. Have a lovely day. X.

BOWTER Salty. Dearest Salty, from one "scumbag" to another. I will love you forever. Love Terry. xxxxx

BP Pins PB = Ecstasy. BP minus PB = Woe. I love your rosy nob-dy. Love you. British Petroleum.

BREM - the best deserves the best. Didn't we do well! Love you. Ray.

BRENDA - My love for you grows more each month. each year. Frank.

BRIGHT EYES Love is so strong, when you put your music to my song. Trumpet.

BRUCE ROBINSON - Our favourite little Aussie, we love you, Sue and Spondy.

BRUGES- Birmingham. Chester. Florence. these places are just part of your place in my heart.

BRYAN loves Sylvia more and more with every passing year.

BRYNHILD - How else to let the world know I Love You! Carey xx

BUBBSY 'B' Bubbles. Away all my troubles. So bubbles for Bubbsy 'B'

BUFFY *All our love from all your boys* Felix Rupert Giles Bac.

BUNGALINGS. This duck will always love you and wants to be joined at the hip of the waterfall. Ratbag xxx.

BUMPS More than all these I love you. Yours forever Snups.

BUNCHY Loving greetings from India. Soon we'll be together. Ever yours PJM.

BUNGLE, Lots and Lots Of Love Little Bee.

BUNNY of my dreams, I adore you. Your early morning bouncing cabbage.

BUNNY By hay hay, Sylvester.

BUNNY My balloon's still going! All my love my darling. From Bear.

BUNNY Looking forward to April and spending the rest of my life with you. Bunny.

BUNNY DARLING - All thoughts, love and happiness, now and forever. Sunrise, Sunset. Flowers and Commitment. Your loving Arabian Bear xxx.

BUNZIE, *to find your valentine* message you must read Private Eye.

BURBERRY MAN You'll always have my heart, only wish I had yours!

BUSH BABY, I shall love you always. Fred The Nightowl.

BYRNE Love you for always all my love Bulldog

BUTTON filled Welshy loves his maid honey beach how more than ever.

BWD. Ping ping! All fares please Robin Hood well shot. Thank you. LWD.

C? - Love to survey your Estate Royal.

C.A.C.C Annual General Meeting to be held above the garage. Ineida please bring your shoes. I love you. D.S.H.

C.B.W. - Miss you. Love you. But understand. All love, C.B.

C.B. Happy Birthday Darling. I Love You For Ever And Ever C. J.

C.J. May the next 10 years be as great as the first 10. All my love.

"C.L.P. - I still throw the pigs every night in my dreams with my love - J.M.D."

C.M. When you need a friend I'll still be here - Poppy.

C144 Bmw Your bodywork is still beautiful after all these years E 144 MBE.

CADBURY'S Caramel would like to wish Freddy Trumper a fantastic Valentines Day!

CALLING Control tower from Aspen Tooting Headon Cambridge and St. Gervais. We love you.

CAMILLA. To a wonderful wife. Much love, many kisses. XXXXXXXXXXXX.

CANDY is Dandy. Blue cheese. Visit. I will love you lots always.

CAPTAIN Randy don't be square. I still love you, but from where?

CAR on head. I'm free! Are you? Miss you. Rowboat.

CARA CARA - Pafin mi in conversazione per quaranta anni-il tuo unico vero e felice.

CARBY - Love, kisses, smooch, hugs - always yours. The Pink Hippo.

CAROL - *its nice being with someone who makes you laugh, love* Robin.

CAROL You're a sweetie. love you lots, my valentine. Pete xxxx.

CAROL same message as last year. Love Brian XXX.

CAROL Be my Valentine forever. Love Gene.

CAROL "its your body and pilgrim soul that I love. Steven.

CAROLA - It is really that it how from yow - many times - David.

CAROLE After twenty five years you are still my Special Valentine. Terry.

CAROLINE Bette of the Thornhill Arms, soon to my arms. let me serve you. Love Midas.

CAROLINE - Tobias needs you.

CAROLINE - Love you always - come down & see me in the shed sometime!

CAROLINE My strength of emotion willenstare endless devotion. Breathe life into me. Love Broken Zebra.

CAROL SOUTHALL - I will love you forever. Will you marry me? Tony.

CAROLYN I love love love love love you. Got it! David.

CAROLYN, Puche, Princess, Bonzo, Vine. Love forever from Bear. xxx.

CAROLYN - The good times have only just begun - I Love you. Martyn XXXXXX.

CAROLYN - Silver this year. Cheers! - Let's go for gold in similar style - Trevor.

CATHERINE My darling Spod. I love you and no does Brod. Martin XXXXXXXXXXXX.

CATHERINE. Buckets and stacks. Hubs.

CATHY - Three months later her sieh ich ires dir zum tod - TOM.

CAXEE, only sunny days now and for ever, Love Nigel.

CD. From me over here to you over there with love - Margaret.

CELINA with all my Bippy Bibdrop love on Valentines Day. Crazy Billy.

CERI Worked it out? Two times sixteen times four. Staple.

CH Nouveaux trouvés cet incroyable amour. Je l'adore. Ton DH.

CHANSON D'AMOUR Au Revoir but not goodbye. September cottage waits for you.

CHANTAL Let me spend the next two yards of my life caring for you. Always. Timothy.

CHARLEY. Alfred tower knows were still, still crazy after these years too. Come fly, come fly away. Close your eyes and dream. Rick.

CHARLOTTE From one Charlie to another, all my love as always! R.R.

CHEERS Miss Flashy. Be with you in Venice and Florence. Love and kisses! No. 6.

CHELLIE My scarlet de Beauvoir cannot offer you a moon bath or cocktail, *but will you be mine?* Signed Aristo.

CHINAMO I love you always. Simon.

CHINNER Your bum drives me crazy, be my valentine, discard your dirty socks. Zulu Warrior.

CHIPS You never know what this year might hold - zoggle you - Jeff.

CHOCOLATE BUTTONS! Mango Monster wants a hat. We'll catch the wind together. Love.

CHOUCHOU, my lovlier, more precious Valentine year by year. All my love. Bonbon.

CHRIS Look forward to being woken by you Sunday Sean! Your cantankerous old bat! XX.

CHRIS, Love you with all my heart. Miss you terribly. We will be together soon. Your sunshine.

CHRIS - The delicious & delectable. I love you & your gorgeous sexy hairy chest. Theresa xxxx

CHRIS LEAMY, be my Valentine always. love from Paula.

CHRISTA - Please don't ever leave me, Wilberforce ". Christa will you be mine, Sid. Christa, yours forever. Rafe. Christa, I love you desperately. Basher.

CHRISTINA. Don't despair. there is life after babies. Love D.

CHRISTINE - Love from the Phantom of Caminaro to my favourite dinner companion.

CHRISTINE (Freddy) you're divine, wonderful, exciting, gorgeous. All my love - R.

CHRISTINE COLLINS - A very special lady, whom I love so very much.

CHRISTOPHER - Love like ours was Heaven sent. Yours forever darling. Sheila.

CIRCE: Forget the vastness of the void. Value your valve. Love Ignatius.

CJJ - You are wonderful. We love you more than ever. BMNO

CK You are all that I want and all that I need. I love you.

CLAIRE My darling, all my love Michael.

CLARE - The only ex-Orange pupil who reads The Times - Love Alasdair.

CLARE surprise surprise. Happy valentines day. I love you very much. Monkey.

CLARE. Boscut. "The Loveliest woman in the world" - Lord Conway. York Races July 9th. coming.

COL loves Roo.

COLD FEET Messages in the Times like this could go on forever and ever. Is there no better way to complete our unfinished business ??

COLETTE The most loveable (and loved) Morris Minor Pilot in the world - from John.

COLIN Humphrey I love you Thanks for being my best friend - Louise.

COLIN BARTON Husband, father, lover extraordinaire. Your wife is wild about you.

COLIN BERNE You are still and always will be, the most delicious bum in the world. xxx

COLLEEN Love you always and forever we'll be together. Matthew.

COLLEEN Leinas, sweetheart, dont go you're always in my mind. I love you. Saint Marjoure.

COME Kiss me sweet and thirty bois the stief will not endure.

CONGRATULATIONS deputy Janet - But Valentine, you've always been my number one!

CONRINE Let's be together.

CREETGH, you're so Nimi! I love you so much, always yours D.A.H.

Crosby, Trunch or New Brighton no matter. Always love you wherever, Stumpy.

CUCHALOO And The Boys are very much in love with Cruppring.

CUCKLYBUNS I love you particularly your spun gold hair from your Cuckiyoos.

CUDDLEBUNS - Love Henry.

CUDDLES Be my life's companion and we'll never grow old. Joe.

CUDDLEMAN LADY. I love you dearly....From your man in the middle ground.

CUFFED LIFE - You're the only one to turn me on. Love I.

CURLY - Be my Valentine. I hope this helps the cause. Much love. The Campaign Director.

CYNTHIA. Swan love forever. Forever Swan love. Colon to RA. George.

D. All white tonight. Painter may be, but at heart knight. Endless love. T.

D.F. Having Brenston has'nt soured you. You're still sweet enough now you're two. All my love (sigh).

D.H.M. I love you more than the moon and the stars. S.L.S.

D278 All my love, my precious treasure, til the end of time - H505.

DAD Sends love and kisses to all his girls. Flowers may follow.

DAH DI Dah di dah. Ca dir gww, I luv u, ca si be a spoil too? 86's de skrtlw!

DAISEY - Woof you be my Valentine? R & R thinking of you.

DANIEL - Upside down or right way up, my love.

DAPPLEBERRY HOUND. Woof Woof! We loveums you lotsums. From Hippo and Rhino xoxo.

DARK blue cox steer straight with love light blue Councillor.

DARLENE Dannie. I can feel it's all happening. Love you forever. Lola.

DARLENE R. Love from the Rain Forest. Thee Eyes.

DARLENE Gazza Puff with all my love on Valentines Day and forever. Nona.

DARLENE Kathy. Love you, come rain, come shine, you are beautiful, Jeremy.

DARLENE Nickywicky. My valiant wonderful true love. Always remember I love you.

DARLENE Snowie, wishing you a very special year love you always. Olivia.

DARLENE Beautiful Bear. yummy wife and super house. Love you so much. One Tap Roonie.

DARLENE Ping - Thanks for making my dreams come true. all my love, Thisbetbi.

DARLENE Here's to you. Thanks for your patient understanding. Je T'aime.

DARLING Liz. my love for you just grows. your my life. Brian.

DARLING Parker. Thanks for filling my life with happiness. All my love, Doods.

DARLING Richard. Thanks for being there. Love you lots. Love, Sarah (Bttttt).

DARLING Kim. my heart is submersed in yours. Love you always. Paul.

DARLING Janet: How much further does your yucca plant have to grow ? All my love. Cuddles.

DARLING Bill Bed bug accepts with pleasures the chance to play with your toys. Love always.

DARLING Bob: Sometimes your difficult, sometimes your impossible but I do love you very much: Jenny.

DARLING Pipi, need I say more than I adore you. Love Colin.

DARLING Anne, you are the real Princess. Love you always. J.

DARLING Marilyn - Happy Valentines Day now and forever - Love Tony.

DARLING Babykins, Love you, love you, love you. from your babykins.

DARLING Nena, how about having a bubbly valentine's with me?

DARLING Dingbats, diffy seal loves you even more than last year.

DARLING Teddy Bear Legs. Mimi loves you very much - will you always be mine.

DARLING Little F. Can't wait for April 30th. All my love, always: R.

DARLING Four-eyes, happy 17th Anniversary, happy Valentine, love always. D.B.

DARLING never can say goodbye - Love you forever and ever - Yours D.P.

DARLING Linda. To my one and only Valentine, my love could not be stronger. Husband Nigel.

DARLING dog's breath I will love you until the Sahara Desert freezes over and camels come skating home. Con amore sparta. Props.

DARLING Linda Nicholls love you all times are you still my valentine.

DARLING Dinah. Sign your name across my heart. Love Ben.

DARLING BEAR - Thank You for everything. Please look after me. Love Little Rabbit.

DARLING BOB: Sometimes you're difficult; sometimes you're impossible, but I do love you very much: Jenny.

DARLING BOTTOMSHINE - Many you're much adored by perfection mimus tenth massiter.

DARLING CATHERINE from a not so anonymous admirer - N.

DARLING CUDDLES, Tonight and forever I am yours. Frog.

DARLING DEN, When I've got you, who needs green jumpers?

DARLING DUMBO Read my lips. I love you so much and always will. Love Dimbo. Kiss.

DARLING JIM - Can't wait until the 23rd April - our wedding day. Love always Jude. xxx.

DARLING LINDI - I can't wait to cut your toe-nails. Who says I'm not a romantic? Love Paul.

DARLING MICHELLE - *All my* love until eternity - P.S. Willie loves Tasie.

DARLING PETRA Guess who loves you still after all these years? Your friendly Gorilla.

DARLING SIMON: I Dreaming of you in Paris. Soulmate.

DARLING STEVE With all my love, always Barns.

DARLING WENDY Will always love you. The Boy.

DARREN - Happy Valentines Day. Love you for ever & ever. Lots of love from the Gm

DAVID Thanks for just being you and for our beautiful Nicholas. Love you always, your Lynda.

DAVID - Fancy being a Valentine Turtle? Whoops of love. snogs & scrunns. Debbie.

DAVID - I love you today and forever and always. Bear hug - from Fonty.

DAVID I I love love you you Jo Jo xx xx xx xx.

DAVID MARK CUNNINGHAM - Chess What? Ostriches go crazy over bananas.

DAWN Clayton is the most wonderful girl in the world.

DEANA MARIA I Love you even more the year.

DEAR Frank. all my love forever. love Ann. Happy Valentines Day!

DEAR Mohamed. It's not for men only - Love Carol II.

DEAR Pooh. Happy Valentine's day. Love Sausage.

DEAR Norma so pleased you can read this. Love James Francesca Gabriella.

DEAR Susanna I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you, Love Monks.

DEAR Baum Z. You are the best, you beat the rest. love Mariana Marwan Neda Karen.

DEAR Big Poop - *I love you* mostest - love Little Poop.

DEAR Bear. you're the one for me. love always Super Can.XXX

Dear Guy, good job I went skiing! Love always Jazzy.XXX

DEAR Diane (AKA MPJ). what a day. 13 years later I still have to say you're better & greater. Love you Beaucoup Beaucoup du Poppet.

DEAR BEAR Let's share your picnic and toast our love, Pooper.

DEAREST Smelly Colture, hope its Smeeli this year. love as always Frog.

DEAREST, Darling. Daphne. Longing for you always. Pining, passionate, Pippy.

DEAREST, Bonnie. Love you, need and want you forever. Love GLYNDE.

DEAREST Lissie Pickle. Love you millions, now and forever. P.

DEAREST Kate, I told you I'd do it before you. Love Mike.

DEAREST Rob. You're very special and I love you with all my heart. Infinite kisses. Caroline.

DEAREST Nefergoocys: All my love in extra special favourite lovely - Woolies.

DEAREST darling Moira all my love on Valentine's day and always Jim.

DEAREST Caroline. Thanks for everything. all love, James.

DEAREST Dimples, our dreams are coming true: I will love you forever. Curly Toes.

DEAREST P.J. All my love forever True Blue.X.

DEAREST Benjemin Banana. Loves you lots and lots from your George.



DEBBIE - I only saw you passing by and yet I'll love you till I die. David.

DEBBIE. Love to Squigsell from Robert. Spy. Dubbie. Pinkie and all the committee.

DEBORAH you know I love you please come back soon love Rod.

DEBORAH Ann Miles. It's a fatty pop! See you at the altar. All my love. Richard XXX

DEBORAH from one food lover to another may the Schwartz be with you.

DEES. Looking forward to May 28th. Hope you are too. Jem.

DELL With love always, Cobbit.

DELLA As always you are on my mind and I love you as much as ever. Adrian.

DENA JONES - Mates dentdernate on Feb 14 - and Gerald wants to frolic.

DENISE My darling snugglebunns our sixth Valentines Day together. Love you forever and always, Austin xxx

DERRINGTON. I'm mad about you. Tom and Tiger's Dad.

DEVOTED to Dentles? Drive forld sod? No. Fod loves Dotell!

DIANA - My beloved. What an experience. Que Sera. Sera. HIPPOLYTUS.

DIANA. I. is love me forever. Happy Bear.

DIANA. Thank you darling, my ever lovely and ever loved. Heinz.

DIANE - All my love and gratitude for thirty years of very happy marriage - A.M.L.E.

DIANE My Darling Valentine and wife. I will love you always. Ken.

DIANNE Hockey. Happy Valentine. Thanks for 1987. Heres to 1988. Love Peter.

DIDDLE WUMPS be my Valentine for ever and I will bark for joy. Woofer.

DIDDY Dane Fard. Love you millions. All my love, King Frog.

DIDI - I think you think I'd do; don't waste me, petit chou

DI-DI, No more necking please, love T.

DIDI I Happy Valentines day. I will love you always. Mega xxx's, Peppers.

DI-DI - Meet me on the netball pitch and re-live old memories. Love Jimbo.

DIDO DEAREST - There's a rampant Welshman in your soup. When I'm a Master will you be my Mate?

DIGBY POP, gotta run even on Valentines day, lots of love Pike.

DIGGERWOG You are truely lovely. Thank you little hot budded fruity. Lovelylegs.

DIMPLES I will love you forever. Em.

DIONNE To you my heart belongs all my deepest love XXXXX Jeremy.

DIONNE I love you because you're you. Please don't ever change. Richard.

DISTANCE is a great promoter of admiration. Miss you Claire. my Valentine.

DISTANT Dolphin, dearly loved and much desired. Yours alone and ever, J.

D & L Beats D & J anyday love you forever darling.

DMM (Scot) - Whats ocean or clumps of land between friends? Luv Ya. KMD i.Oz.

DNBL Looking forward to coming home. Love you to infinity. DJRW.

DOCTOR Doctor D from black teddy champagne and strawberries I love you

DOE, Many Happy Returns Darling and Happy Valentines. All my love Gordon.

DOFFWY March 2nd 1940. I love you more than ever. Yours J.B

DONK - I think you're kind of cute. Love Peter.

DONNA - Happy Valentines Day. Love You - Fred.

DON'T want marriage, don't want children, just want you.

DONT WALK AWAY Don't you know we should never part, love Tray.

DORMOUSE - Your old brief loves you - R.R.S.S.

DOROTHY - Keep on breathing new life. Fondest love always - James and Seamus.

DORRY, Keep drinking the coffee. All my love, Jonti.

DORSET Duchess, no fancy Message - Just I Love You. David.

DRIVELLY Nonsense to Biffo The Bungler from your everloving Bear.

DRIVING? Yes Boss. but not to drink or anywhere else.

DROOPY - Glad we are together forever, love you zillions. H.H.

DRUM TUM SARA-LOU Days to do are getting few, Love you madly, miss you badly. All love your Smelly Pooh.

DUCKLING I wish I were a butterfly for I would have the power to sip the deepest nectar from the soft pink foxglove flower. Love Sandra.

DUFF, Love you forever. Your friend and favourite Fairy.

DUMBO - Frederick loves fried eggs, crows feet, sparrows legs and you - enormously.

DUNCAN Life is still bitter Sarah.

E 8.21 for ever. A.

E.A.B. Become E.A.W. this year. Are you free on October 22nd? *I am. I love you, always. Mark.*

EDWINA I couldn't be keener. Sister George.

KEYORE - Be my Racer Champ and I'll be your Ra-Ra - Forever Tiger.

EGG. I love you more than all the words in the Times could ever say. R.

EILEEN Though sea keeps us apart you're forever in my heart. J xxxx.

EILEEN, Happy Valentine. This years vintage even better than lasts' I love you always, Peter

EIRA My darling with all my love to you now and always. God bless you Dee.

ELAINE - The bestest little girl in the universe. All my love Horrible Nedgenog.

ELAINE - you're Three Times a Lady. Love you lots Miss P. Gra-ham.

ELEANOR. Darling I love you always. Gerald.

ELECTA Loves ALL.

ELIZABETH, ALICE and **LAURA CAROLINE** - How can one man be so lucky? All my love. XXXXXXXX.

EMMY I love you more than Holly's badness. Signed Chicken.

EPAULES Blanches. Je t'aime. Je les aime et tout les autres choses maintenant toujours. David.

ERNIE - you are my sunshine - shine forever. Love on Valentines Day - Princess.

EVE darling, my Valentine for forty odd years and still my only love. Sunny.

EVE my so beloved will you be my companion one more year? Ton Ours D Berne.

EVEN after a year without you - I still love you as I did ten years ago.

EVERY Night I've held you close, tonight's the night I need you most.

F.C. I Love you. T.G.

F.F. All my love. W.W.

FANGIO - my heart races for you. Is your love free? - Cohen xxxx

FAREWELL Woodgrange Hilton. Anticipating great happiness at old bakery. D Love P.

FATBELLY GUTBUCKET Fancy an engine mens kiss?. Lots of hugs. Honey Bunny

FATBELLY GUTBUCKET Fancy an engine man's kiss? Lots of hugs Honey Bunny.

FATMACHS Coo Coo Sevenn Seal. Always memo.

FATTY Love you for ever, just go on being you. Sock Face.

FATTY. I'm so clean you can lick your dinner off me!! H.

FCHATZE Komm unter meine decke und mich Angel.

FIENLIA I love you the ultimate cliché. David Tres Naff Corp Ltd.

FIFTY YEARS ON You are still my darling Crocodile Valentine. your Longnose.

FINLEY HUNLEY - The biggest too known - love you always from Kwinni.

FIONA let me light your fire. Come paint the town with desire.

FIONA Thinking of you. Looking foward to seeing you again soon. Love Andrew.

FIONA the wee cutie who brightens up my life. I love you.

FIONA - Everlasting love and eternal happiness from Dan Dan Dee Karate Porsche man.

FIONA & CAROLINE - Tons of love, Ashley

FIRE BARON Okay I give up, here's mine, I'm overboard again. Elizabeth.

FLICK my bic. Ditto, ditto. nitto. Sleek and elegant. Toot.

FLOOBERS Don't you think this is better than Anita's flowers. Ken.

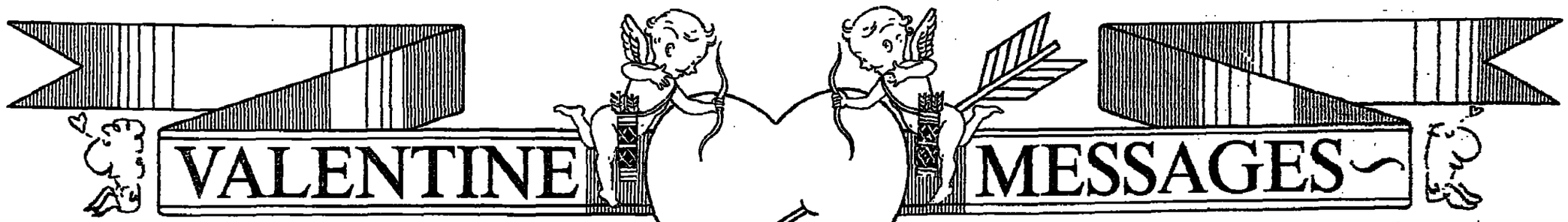
FLOPSY "Come live with me and be my love and we will all the pleasures prove" Love you lots Cranston.

FLORA. Love your muscles, dance with me always. John.

FLOTSAM & JETSAM Tons of love, Big Bro Ash.

FLUFF The cutest bees of love and cuddles from your Bunny.xxx

FOF-FOF Trees fall, fl



HIPPO, wishing you a Happy St Valentines. All my love and rolling. Posh.

HI SEXY LADY - Candles in the lamp. My little signor - let's rampalong.

HLUHLUMETI - All my love always. Squirweed.

HOMEFINDER Keep me warm throw away my carrier bag. love Mark.

HONEY Bunm, happy Valentines lots of love hugs'n kisses Wookey Back xxx.

HONEYBEAN MALONE T'is a leap year and I love you. Bo-Bo Bugsy.

HONEY BEAR - Let me be the spoon in your honey pot and we will be happy and sticky forever. Je t'aime avec lolil mon coeur. Chocolate bear xxxx

HOPE 1988 includes B. D. F & G. preferably not paid for by me! Luv Pet x.

HORATIO is just waiting for the day! As always, all my love

HOTLIPS - Love you. Salmon and Champagne.

HOTTIE - I am two fooles. I know you know the rest. Traveller

HOUSEWIFEY Your Jason not Paris has found your archilles heel Cain had Abelly: Jason only Barry I love you for your one imperfection Philsatus Builder.

HOW Can someone so young sing words so fad. dearest Magdalen? - Pseud.

HUBBY 'B' - All my love for ever. Piglet with three tails!

HUG my clan in oilskins - D. Repeat Romans 10 by heart ? Too lovely to be grey XXX

I have the mail at home Lyll. Chandelabra loves our times. G B.

I can do with a D .. right now!

I am as high as a kite cos I love you valentine. Waldo.

I love you Poos especially on the water!

I Love you more every day, and I need you always. WZ.

I lawenydd fy ngnarlad, y calon cynnes Huw

I Just want you to know I love you so Pic Piggy

I do love you . please practice your crib. roger



I ADORE my lamby my bouncy, my all and happy birthday boo!

I ADORE, Miss Suzy Amamoo. LLB. LLM. Love Miss Samia Amamoo BSC. - My valentine

IAN - Monkey sends her love on Valentines Day!

IAN, you've made heaven a place on earth and brought happiness. Ily.

IAN Hunks! The greatest lover in the whole world. Love you lots Elena XXX

IAN LOBB All my love on valentines day and always your C.J. XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

I CAN wait another day until I call you Champagne, pyramids and water?

IDLEWIND - Yours for the taking. Love Ben and Tracey.

I LOVE A LEZZIE
My favourite little pud
Always very busy
Beautiful and good
(And she's fifty today!).

I LOVE LUNDY. St Malo. Rennes. Concorde. QE2. Waldorf Astoria. Tenerife and you.

I LOVE YOU Jo. wish you were here: be my long distance Valentine. Hugs 'n' hearts. Simon.

I LOVE YOU from Devon to Zululand and back again. Din Roberto.

I LOVE YOU the most in the world and you are the only one for me Surinder.

I'M Crazy about you Bummy. Love N.

IMAGINE Gita Roy.
Expectant even coy.
Until she found her boy.
Had truly no big toy.

IMRAN KHAN Forever and always be the captain of my heart and thoughts love Wendy.

IN Vicky I Met An Excellent Pet From Tim No Regret.

IN Sidies Nepal or Bushy Park Sea Loves Tatts and Wendy.

INCHOATE Love onward ventures, ever canorous ardour transhues huggable you.

INEXPERIENCED Rider loves midnight blue MGB GT driver. Only marriage will stop life going downhill!

IRISH - Rep sends ALL her love from the Emerald Isle to Cornish reps. 'I love you' remember only 264.

IT'S A sign from The Times your cups should runneth over! from Party Pooper.

IT'S All been said, save that the touch of hands says all, and loving tenderness remains forever.

IT'S SEEN OK for 14 years. Will the next 14 be better. Simba and Me.

J Always in my heart. Never out of my mind ever since that first kiss. R

J Lots of Love for today and your 21st on 24th M.

J - With all my love from your Honeybunch. R XXX Happy Valentines.

J. Wide shoulder ever available Affection and friendship always at hand D.

J. From one big softie to another. All my love. P

J. I compare thee to a summer's day? E.

J.A.D. through 21 years your beauty has stunned your humour. amused could not live without you.

J.C. with love from J H.H.

J.C. - 1988 has got to be happier - I adore you C.K.

J.M. Now and Forever - Richard -

J.W. Tennyson's Brook repeats it. Love C.D

JACK. and, Hannah. and, Baba. Happy, Valentines, Day. All. My. Love, Nigel.

JACKIE -Thanks for making it a little Calder in January -Love Dave.

JACKIE - Ashley wants to cuddle you all the time. Can you fix it?

JACKIE Race meetings can never be the same again Love you always, Brian.

JACKIE Remember what the 3 stones in your ring stand for. Phil.

JACKIE. this is D I Y. P.R. be my valentine, love & kisses. Ian

JACKIE The man who buys your chocolate gateaux and filling loves you madly xxx

JACKO: Brown Bear. Honey Bear and I wish you love on Valentines'

JACK'S You are my one and only love which will last forever and forever Wisey

JACKY I may be silly but I love you dilley
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

JACQUELINE I'll love you till the Twelfth of Never. and that's a

JACQUELINE ANN. You know I love you. ask what you will. love U forever and ever. Graham

JACQUI - 8 years, 4 houses, and 2 children later I love you more then ever - G

JAMES - Spoiling for a Valentine treat with you. give in forever. D

JANIE. I love you now. and will love you for ever-more.

JAN COOPER. Rat ignawed in Buckingham's Old Gaol? Never! Love. Clematic.

JANE Griffith. Happy Valentines Day. Love from a not so secret admirer

JANE I'm your Tarzan and your my Jo man, lets play charades.

JANE I want to write my name all over you. Craig.

JANE You have made a young man very happy. love always John.

JANE With my love for always. Terry.

JANE, You've made me incredibly happy. I love you so much. Jeff.

JANE - I love you, more than ever. Happy Valentines. Malcolm xxx.

JANE STONEY with lots of love to the most amazing woman I know from Graham xxx

JANET. All love Meek. Bunrat. Red and Pan (and Lemon Tiger yearlust).

JANETWhat happened to the small blonde? - You know the rest.

JANET - Everything will be O.K. Roy - W.M.P.

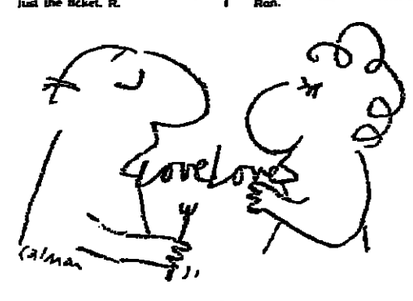
JANEY my lady in red who danced into my life and captured my heart for ever.

JANET - I'll love you always. Tony (DILUMD)

JANET STONEY, Amor Vincit Omnia. Robert.

JANETTE will you be my Valentine. Love Simon.

JANICE to see you is to love. Your lust the ticket. R.



JANICE JACKETT. I love you with all my heart like a piece of apple tart. Dave

JANIE with all my love to my little lover and friend J.T.

JANIS il mio amore Sukl. Bernie. Pebbles.

JANJANS - Thanks for ten happy years - we'll beaver on together Love Peter.

JANN I love you and always will. Together we can make it. Graham.

JANNINE, I will ring you from Edinburgh 21.1.89 ? Bernard.

JAPONICA - Eu amo te dead teddy's friend.

JASON Just to say that I love you. Happy Valentines Day. ?

JAYNE - Good show there wasn't, but there was you. Love Marcus.

JAYNE - Thank you for 6 months of happy marriage. Gilbey. all my love Bob.

JAYNE. My love for you will stand the test of time and stay fresh forever. Peter XXXXX.

JAYNE HATFIELD Be my prop in 88. Much love Bernard the Book.

JAYNE RICHARDS! All my love forever and always. Guess Who? Richie Rich!

JB. thank you for giving me happiness, peace, and fulfillment. I will love you forever. SnuggleBug.

JEAN Happy Valentine, my darling. I still want you to live with me. with all my love from your Clown.

JEANETTE PEARSON Hope you enjoy the champagne - table for two Ayton Hall 7.30 Sunday 14/2/88. Love Neil.

JEANEY Beany Whilst I'm able, there will never be a Mabel - from Him.

JEANNE I would love to push you in the lake. Love M.

JEANNE - You are always my very special valentine. All my love Desmond

JEANNE. All the love in the world from Bigtalk to Smalltalk.

JEANNE - To my future Woolie's checkout girl. Lots of love from Simon.

JEANNIE - I love you - Jeannie - I love you - Jeannie - I love you - Jeannie - I love you .....G.

JEFF with much love on valentines day. Yours always Jackie.

JEMMA BUCKHURST - I love you - Remember Chanel No. 19 I am with you always my love.

JENNIFER - Do you fancy taking tea again at the Black Cat? Then as now love Clive.

JENNIFER Its been a year and a bit I'll always love you.

JENNIFER. He loves you more than ever. Purdey.

JENNIFER BARNES Still in Manchester eh! When will I see you again? All my love on Valentines Day. Graham.

JENNY: Peacock bird so fine. Forget you're Aries: just be mine. Pee-Wee.

JENNY, my love for you grows stronger every day. Love. Ugli.

JENNY Darling! Our fantastic Love to you - From D.C & S.

JESSICA Hugs and kisses, your Bear.

JESS - Thanks for your support in insuring Q.D.P's success. Piedates. M.

JILL All my love and best wishes for most favourite Bear.

JILL The miss you nights are still the longest. Mail shot writer to mode air princess.

"JILLY Willy love from Andrew, Charles, Bertram, Oliver. Zeus, Canteri. Herby. etc.

JIM - You are my TV star, who others fancy from afar. Anita.

JIM-DUNCAN With all my love. Pretty Voice. Hugs.

JO Happy Valentines day. Lots of love and kisses from C & B.

JO Champagne, chocolates, The Times.... what more could you want - Nat met

JOAN Bhan, my nifty bosom pal. I'm GIII

هكذا من الاصل

VALENTINE MESSAGES

NICK - Missing you and longing for you to make me a paper plane. Charlie.

NICKY Much love and big woolies from Paws and the Patrol. XXXXXXXXXX.

RINGO - I miss your luscious lips, cuddlebum and kisses. my love forever Tiger xxxxxxxxx.

RIO or Marble Arch. My valentine's the same! Love from Peking Lady.

RITA Jean. all my love forever.... ....Rudolph.

RITA Lloyd. My Valentine now and forever. love Barrington.

ROBERT Hendry Anderson. I love you. Your the most wonderful thing in our life.

ROBGEMAND - You are fun. You are paradise. You are everything - eternally.

ROBS - No worries, no fears, no second thoughts. I love you.

ROGER over. Love you. Everything and all that stuff. Over. Your co-pilot, navigator. Over.

ROMA 264 all my love and blessings. love of my life, love you forever that's for sure!.

RONNIE, don't desert me now we need each other, I love you. Ilse xxx.

SARAH - Love you now, always and for ever! Guess who?

SARAH I love you with all of my heart and mind. Gabby

SAS AT LAST,
I've remembered The Times. Bet now.
I've forgotten the lines. SAS.

SCARRY Ral, I'm glad I married you. stug. Love Maggot. your Snugglebum.

SCHNOO, how do I love thee let me count the ways. John.

SCHNOOKIE in Norway, remember 2 years ago on this very page? Thankyou for saving yea. Love Schnook in Norway.

SCILLA My Sultana. I long for your oasis x Sheikh of Oman.

SCOTTIE - After the introduction and the first chapter I so look forward to the rest of the book - Your Englishman.

SCRIBBLING Smash Coach still hoping to win love game if X-coffee mate will surrender. Pants other open always.

SCRUMLET love you always, little angel - Bear.

SCRUMMYBUM Love you oodles make an honest man of me. Chocchieburn.

There's a PERFUMED letter for you - shall I TEAR it up?



BOMBO AND JULIET
Anthony and Cleopatra
And Ann and Tony Birmingham

BONA FONA Sweetie Pie, be my only love and I'll try and try.

ROSEMARY Mr Simon was right. It's so right after all these years.

ROSEN. Tuften. Nelken, alle drei ver welken. Nordie eine velket nicht. Welche bliest vergissmeinnicht. Alles liebe, dein Schatz.

ROSES are red violets are blue chipmunks are furry I love you.

ROSES are red violets are blue, so what. I still love you.

ROSES are red. Violets are blue. I'll tell the world I love you. From 40+ to Rosie 'S'.

ROSIE: Love you. Always have done: Always will do. John.

RUTH regardless of the air distance between us be my Valentine. All my everlasting love Jim.

RUTH. John Jeff for a foursome. I'll bring George you bring Sophie.

RWJ - If not for you. we would not have Alexander. for that alone. I love you. Karen.

S, I miss your smiling ... face? in the mirror. 2 bunny winks, J

S. I'll have my head in the clouds thinking of you. Love forever C.

S. I nearly did but I did'nt because I never get the chance. But I love you.

S. LI C. I think you're brilliant C and I love you S. xxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

S. Love always. A.

S.J. - No more shirts on the tiles, lets keep it all smiles. Love A.D.

S.J. Loving you needs a colour double-ended with a run of forever. J.J.

S.J.A. - My beloved of over 40 years and my valentine for ever. There has been love and heartache. Now let there be only love. Devotedly yours, M.

S.O.S. Viking Princess. Hang up you helmet. Cooperation assured. Love Balding Bollington Platterbil.

S.Q. Knew you'd find it. Love You. G.

S.S. Taboo my little pickled onion. All my love. Little Miss Nobottom.

SALLY, I love you always all my love Jon.

SALLY I love you lots + lots. love Martin.

SALLY, our valley is green. but blue without you. Fred.

SALV (WALTON) - Thanks for a fantastic time!! I'm still waiting for some chocolate mousse!! Love xxx ? xxx

SAM - Be mine forever. Reward: Love and your very own Fluffy B.

SAM you are my hope, my lover, and I will always love you! Yours forever Frederick.

"SAMANTHA - I LOVE YOU".

SANDI. I do it all again and again, even the bad bits! Year 2 will be better: we might have a whi! Loving a wonda girl is Hell. Can I keep it up! I Love You. Mr. S. Nanak.

SANDRA. Te amo and will always, forever together as one. Amor Paul.

SANDRA. You'll always be my valentine. happy birthday. love Peter.

SANDRA ANDREWS I love you very much. Tufted Puffin.

SANDRA FATTYBERGER You are cuddles and wuddles of joy. Love Jolmsy Wongy.

SANDRAKINS The entropy change increases Gibbs free energy causing spontaneity. Sotensen.

SARA, Four years and still going strong. All my love Frenchie.

SARAH Great barriers down under the outback. A night out perhaps! P.

SARAH: The time has been wonderful. The place immaterial. Much love. Nick

SARAH A.K.A. Rab. If you ask then Yes Love Batgle

SDM. Another year, another dollar. Greater memories, greater love. Still my valentine. SOS.

SEA, songs, symphonies, secrecy, sweetness, seduction?

SECRET admirer all signs eagerly received enfolding me - Paddington kept busy! Still smiling waiting patiently rebuild your desert flower.

SIDNEY Loves going out, coming home, going to bed, waking up, with you.

"SE IT DEN" Sending loving wishes, the kind that grow and grow, to hope today is happy because "I love you so".

"SEND me the warmth of your secret smile, to show me you have'nt forgot". Tot.

SEX KITTEN - Guess who loves you passionately and madly? The Ram.

SHARE my love Sharon for ever, in Ernest.

SHARON - I can never find the words to say how much I love you everyday. Ian. xxx

SHARON, At last consideration for the Jelly Babies. Love forever Marcus.

SHARON Dearest. for feelings that sometimes lie too deep for words. Just a reminder. Gary.

SHARON - I love you so much now and forever. Sweet Pea.

SHARON Happy Valentine's Day on our first of many. Love and best wishes. Richard.

SHE who is scholarly, genuine, seductive and, on Sundays, solicional.

SHEBA In the middle of the bouncable you shine confidently like a radiant star. I love you forever, or until the builders finish-whichever takes the longer always in love John.

SHEENA All my love to you darling, on enchanted wintry mornings and forever. Glenn.

SHEILA Do'nt panic, just enjoy life like the Thoroubreds. Then enjoy chocolate & champagne with Domestos.

SHEILA - Even though you're unsettled I will always love you - Peter.

SHEILA. 45 years and still my valentine. Yours ever loving Michael.

SHEILA. To express my love for you, with feeling and tenderness. Alan.

SHELIA,
Remember the Alhambra?
Dearest love JZ.

SHE'S a lovely lady, yet many observe romeo's romance is selling. How wrong, try a splice?

SHERL (No 1 Girl). Always beside you - forever loving you. M.

SHORTSTOP - You are my everything. Mr Polarbear.

SIAN JONES, my darling. I love you more every day. Joe xxxx.

SIGRID My heart still lifts when you come into the room. Pandaman.

SILLY GOOSE. The bears are nearly over; then the smiles. Hold on. All my love. I.

SIMON. All the best on Valentines day and the rest of 1988. All my love Karen.

SIMON Please be my Valentine forever. I love you. eternally Marion xxxxxx

SIMON - As the days turn into years. I love you more than ever. Kym.

SIMON - Who lovers yah bebe me! Sooper Valentines. All my love Jane.

SIMON. Never forgotten. Your girls.

SIMPLE Buckinghamshire hurdle maker wants Aussie farmer's daughter to be valentine, with love and affection always.

SIOBHAN Let me hold you tight and have you tonight Love Steve.

SKUNKWORKS - Trouble with me forever. PLF.

SLABBER SOL, still loves his Mob. his style so cool. the bloody fool.

SLAPPER Love you always luv 'n' kisses Mr Angry of SW9.

S L B S All my love. forever. MAS.

SMALL CHAP. My darling Charles Map, with an A on your chest I still love you the best. so take me in your arms with your teddy-mole charms.

SMELLY moose. Love little radiator. so there.

SNARSY I love you very much, lots love Enypt is our honeymoon.

SNOOPY, The Red Baron never forgets. No matter what happens in the future, you will always mean "More to me than words can ever say" xxx.

SNOPPY I will love you always Woodstock.

SNOWBALL, You can squeeze past me slowly, Love Grumpo.

SNUGGLEBUG Smurf: 3½ years with you seems only a day. I want forever, how about you? L.H.K.C. JB.

SNUGGLEBUG - Sorry I'm away yet again. Missing you lots. M.

SNUGGLEBUM 200 miles apart you are ever in my thoughts. Love Cuddlebumps.

SNUGGLES Misses his little star. I want you, I need you, and there ain't no way I'll ever stop loving you, so don't be sad cos 3 out of 3 ain't bad.

SNUGGLYBUGGLY Love Senseless, lots and lots and lots and lots and lots and lots and lots.

SNUGGY BUM - Always be my bed warmer. Piggley.

SO is my love still telling what is told.

SOBERLA - You are the star of my life, deep in my heart I know you're my wife, for sad long months, fate holds us apart, but on this day you're here in my heart. Topoll Mopoll.

SOLLI Sian a girl forever in my heart for dinner with Gershwin.

SOMMER, Paris is'nt so far away. Still miss you lots, Love Pussan.

SONNI Boss Seem Gur Najan Isha Mitra Khandi Noon Sharam Nasseey Langi Jandi Bhoojegayi Deeva Deesh.

SOPHIE, Ethereal horses dance the heart-beat of a second Lunar Rag. Rick

SOPHIE Here's to our animal hanky panky, I love you, babe.

SOULMATE you're under my skin now and for always. Toerag.

SOUP Dragon: Thinking about you here amongst these real Chinese dragons. Love, K.

SOUTHEND CITIZEN: His Constant is he, who would truly have you be, enthralled but yet free.

SOUXSIE SUE, It's written across my heart. Love you for always. Frankie.

SPAG BOL - Ich wurde dich fast immer lieben - F.L.V.O.K.

SPARKLING, Sea and golden sand next year - no effect on feelings though.

SPECIAL, Special buyer. With love on the 14th from The Super Supervisor.

SPIKE SAHIN Will you be my Valentine. I love you very much.

SPOT; My friend, my wife, my love, my life: Smell.

SQUASHIE - Thanks for our home. We love you. Seedy, Ben and Sam.

SQUASHIE Give me more of that off court coaching. I love you. J.B.

SQUISH You are my beloved fireworks and always will be.

SQUISHQUISH, Newbury is so lonely without you! Love & hugs - Your little Nymphs.

SQUIRRLS Gathering nuts may lead to all sorts. All my love. Martin

ST. LUCIA 1988. Honeymoon next time? Love you lots - Frog Face.

STACEY Nosie. My brightest star. Healing as always. All my love. Lochinvar.

STAN, looking forward to more "Balmoral" from your ever loving "Dear" xx.

STANLEY Happy Valentines Day. I love you T.C.

STELLA come to Swange with some Prosecat, courage Camille.

STEPH - Love you always Tightlines XXX.

STEPHANIE Rose. Pumpkin Pumpkin Pumpkinmeroony. Pumpkinmeroony I Love you. Duchess Love Paul.

STEPHANIE From worlds of milky grey. To all I have today. Your love has nourished mine. My ten times Valentine. Vernon.

STEVE KEMPTON Thank you for being my valentine neighbour. Love from Jan.

STEVE WISE aites 'Tatty Head'. You still give me tits. Love and kisses, Spot Goblin.

STEVE, You're such a special Bod this is from your loving Hod.

STEWART, I love you, and can't wait until we're married darling, Jennifer.

STICKY KISSES - Simply want to say, I'll love you always. Baby Tiger.

STILL Crazy about you Pooh. Your old Bat.

STREET love you lots.

STUART You take my breath away, all my love, Sara.

STURPEY - I love you loads and loads, bald patches included.

SU, with all our love on Valentines Day. Christopher and Charlie.

SUCH MEMORIES we have together:
Boardwalks and Pelicans and New York weather.
Yet the best-The Wilderness-is still to come.
Love you always.-Lump.

SUDDEN Many Thanks For What You Have Done For Me. I Love You Dearly. Guest.

SUE, We can go on meeting like this and more! Much love, J.

SUE - Je t'aime toujours. Bryan.

SUE - OK I give in. I'll do it! All my love Cliff.

SUE - I love you just as much as ever - Derek.

SUE - May the sunshine continue for the rest of our lives together. All my love always. Marcus.

SUE, Love you so much. Emmanuel. Stephen.

SUE M. Super lady with white B.M.W. desperate for date but how.

SUMMER GIRL I love you.

SUPER Pat my turn is bigger than your turn. I love you. your very own Eros.

SUPER STAR TINKLET don't ever part away, I love you more than ever M.

SUSAN Smyth young woman, loving wife, caring mother, truly speechless!!!

SUSAN. Somehow the days got in between. Please kiss try again. I love you. Peter.

SUSAN BROOM - I love you.

SUSAN, SUSAN. One year nine and still very special. The Elephant Man.

Susi Snugglebum of Adel. Heaps of love from Hubby and Little Paul.

SUSIE (Secret T.S.). You have stoned my heart. I love you. R.B.

SUSIE, Happy Valentines Day. Love you always. Fred.

SUSIE - The choc will taste great, the bubbly is fine, so smile and be happy my special valentine. Love Bubble, Cuppa and Missy xxx

SUSIE - Another wonderful year. Thank you my darling. My eternal love - Freddie.

SUSIE, my darling valentine. Let us drink to our past and toast our future. Forever yours.

SUZZANNE - lots of love and lust from a Fitness fanatic.

SUZZIE I love you. Willy Loves Squirrel. Your cupid stunt forever. Clothears.

SUZZI- If it's possible I love you a little bit more with every year that goes by. Be my Valentine for ever - Bruce.

SUZZIE, I love you, you love me, says it all. Iain.

SUZZY. Missing you. Envy bear. His days are numbered. Forever Blue.

SWEET - Pea when I am sad and all hope is gone.I think of you with nothing on.

SWEET BOY - A lifetime is not long enough. S.O.

SWEETEST GIRL: At last we're together - forever. Hurrah! Your own Sweetest Boy.

SWEETEST VANDA - wishing you all my love. now and always. Ron.

SWEETIE PIE. Last year was the best we've had 'cos being with you makes me glad to be alive, but I cant wait for what's in store in '88. All My love Spoggleykins xxx.

SWEET-PEA loves her sweety pop pies - see I remembered Dry-Brain!

SWEETPODS A little less shorthead makes our love grow stronger. T.B.

SWERVLES - You are very dear to me, I love you so much.

SYBIL, The mistress of my bine heirloom. Much love from Bogsie.

T - Beg, Maud, and baby bear love Sooty and need him in Moscow.

T.C. - Happy Valentines sent with love and best wishes from your Service Assistant xxx

T.S. Love you like a crazy person! Nicole Nixon xx.

TABITHA TWITCHIT - I love you lots and lots. Be mine forever. Stinker.

TARTY Champagne chocolate and love for my favourite bitch. Randy XXXXXXXXXXXX.

TATIANA - I know we deserve our hearts desire. Loving you eternally. Yevgeni.

TATTIN - Hurry sairer - blwding a bldge in your heart - Rove you rots - Andy B.

TB, to me you are wonderful all the time. BB.

TELL me that true love never dies - love Carly loo.

TERESA The years pass by but the message is the same. I love you Teddy Bear, Rathag.

TERI The Cream Egg Queen: I'd kiss you forehead anytime.

TERRACOTAS are earthy my darling but I prefer you to them honestly.

TESSA - Master friend client design is bent to perfect relationship. Love from me.

THANK you for twelve wonderful years. I will always love you. Sim.

THANKS For the last 24 years, roll on Malta. With love Pete.

THERESA no words can express how I love you. Chris.

THE SCORE is 90 something. By 90 it will be something!

THE SOCKS are in the ashtray today I love you and always will life is perfect.

THE VINE it clings.
The grape it grows.
The wine I drink.
To thee my love.

THINKING of you always, champagne on the beach all my love, Pompiac.

THINKING of you lots Little Girl. Love Jason.

THIS message is small but it will do. It's just. I love you.

'THIS is my confession or love for you'. P.S. Rolly says Pretty.

THIS heart of mine - will always be thine - my dearest darling Valentine

THIS TO My Darling Whutherbee: you'll not be that for long, as you will soon be married and then be Pongdong.
From your Future Hubby!

THOMASINA Tank Engine. Collins Best Loved Verse, page 150. Love Fat Controller.

THROUGH Irish eyes are smiling I'd rather be home with yours. All my love M.

THROUGH Life together, long live East Lane. Emmy from RP with love.

TIFUL. I will love you for ever. Cheddar and Cheese have nothing on us. Love Sunshine.

TIGER Beginning Basingstoke now together forever, I love you so much. Pussycat.

TOGGER Though it were ten thousand miles my love keeps bouncing. Gorilla.

TILLYNIGHT This is our year all my love, Snoops

TIM Oh what a night! Late December back in '87.

TIM - my true love, my heart's desire - my cheatleur! All my love, Karen and the Meech.

TIMZ stars feelings but true love never dies. To Muscle my love.

TINK 'N tith black pants and Blackpool all make me love you. Alty.

TINK will not change the bond between us, this friendship will last until the ring of Galway crumbles into the sea.

TIMMY, for you from Teri, because I you and you're mine.

TINA I shall love you for ever. You're gorgeous love Matt

TINA TINA You look wonderful tonight, signed Travelling Man.

TINKERBOO: You've given my happiness, love & friendship what more could I ask? R.

TINTIN you're very yummy lots of love and kisses from Ian Boy.

TITCHOF darling. Al and I adore you. Lots of love and affection.

TO The Little Chef - keep the griddle going - All my love The Accountant.

TO my Legal Eagle. It's legal and I'm eager! JOOC.

To my darling Tracy he my valentine forever. with all my love Kevin.

TO a better year, Kiwi Cossack and Gaucho, all my love, Poddle.

"TO my darling swiftt you gorgeous creature, you. From the other swift!"

TO Helen - Just for you - Love me.

TO my darling Jackie. Always and forever. Love Eugene.

TO Maddie with love. looking forward to 25th June. Love and stuff. Jane.

"TO my hove male- all my love.T".

TO my own sausage with 15 years of love, Mummy flowerpot and weeds.

TO My Voluptuous Von. All My Love, From The 'Odd One'.

TO: Mumbles. Loves Amanda & Giles.

TO Miss C. Moore with fondest affection from Larkhill. Happy Valentines Day.

TO: Soppysonic Concorde. Roses are red, violets are blue, I'll win my way anywhere with you. Slim Stu.

TO my mysterus man. Lots of love and kisses from the Clement.

TO the definitive Martin Lynch Gibbon, many congratulations and much love. M.

TO dear Julia. All our love from Adder, Dedz and Porky Pie.

TO scrummy Debbie be my Valentine always with much love Andy.

TO Plark. sorry about the car. Love you always. Love little

TO Piglet from Poodle. all my love, always.

TO my darling Kiss who keeps me trim, guess who loves you!

TO Calvin hug me instead of a free love fluffy white bunny.

TO my darling Jane Alexandra. Please be my valentine. Yours eternally George.

TO Tony with all my love on Valentines Day and always. Jess.

TO my dearest superior woman from a toytoby who regards you as a very special friend.

TO my world famous pout all my love your Preston Toy Boy.

TO Susy my sexy little pud love always Bernard.

TO make the day quite sublime. will you be my V.....? H. Love D.

TO Tiny Tig with much love from Big Tig and the Pygmies.

TO: Julia: What's in a name? Love Donald? Trevor? Blaise.

TO my namesor one. Wendy fy honey my Valentine. Love Graham xxxx.

TO Egbert the Eggman from Amsterdam from Cuthbert the Eifman from Hamburg I love you forever.

TO Dordon we all love you very much luv from Goggle Andco.

TO my beloved Button. The Times may presently be overwhelming but find in them my message of love to you.

TO 'Rog' thank you for everything. I love you lots. From 'Ali'.

To dear Poppet - Happy Bubbles on our 20th Valentine. All my love. BUG.

TO Alexander. Happy anniversary valentine. Lots of love. Suesan.

TO E. please be with me. Ron and. Love to meet J.Mc.B.

TO my darling Nick, all my love on Valentines Day. A Secret Admirer.

TO my Snugglebee. Happy Valentine. Love H.R.

TO the only Squirrel in woodland called trousers. Love you always. Mark.

TO my darling David, all my love now and always.

TO Janice T. After twelve years your still my favourite valentine. Love Michael T.

TO my darling furry muff, be my valentine lots of love Poppit.

TO the snowperson, journey with you fantastic. Love the Kenga.

TO Miss Piggy. See you soon. Love Big Dummy.

TO my cooey husband on Valentines Day. My love always. Eileen Margaret.

TO my Pikelet eating Tyke, lots of love, from your crumpet eating Stramper. XXXX.

TO the Mean. all my love. the Dad.

TO My lover and my life. Love forever from your wife.

TO Sid with lots of love and affection from R.G.F. Always yours.

TO Toady. love you always darlings. love from your naughty little Piglet.

To cat 3.from Rodge the stoge. thank you for the days.

TO Angela, the best wife one can ever have. All my love forever. Charles.

TO that Brat o' mine
two two's a loss
get one, two one
with love, The Boss.

TO Wobble bottom from the bottle man can't wait until stone joined.

TO Little Coaddy Person with all my love.

TO Christopher/Daddy. we love you so much. Love Brenda and Jennifer xxx.

TO Elizabeth with all my love forever and always. Healthy George.

TO E. I love your traded options strategies. Love T.

TO Salty-Azzie - All my love from your favourite Snowman x.

TO 'Miss Vleaton,' 'Mr. Swan' keeps paddeling away and will reach you some day.

TO my darling wife Lucinda, all my love from The Workaholic. J.

TO Jenny in this special year, with all my love as ever. John.

TO my darling Pips. 1988 is our year. Love Pops.

TO the best man in the world with love for all your care. Tram the Tessie.

TO my darling wife Louise. My valentine for always. Steve.

TO Toots with all the love fat he world. Hedgenog.

TO my lovely lady on this special day, enriching my life with love and care. Cliff.

To my favotorite lady on this special day. From ever loving R.J.

TO my darling Patricia thank you for being you. with all my love and cuddles - Andrew

TO Chris hoping you always love me a lot. Love always. Really.

TO A.P.I. For old times sake. Love always. R. xx

TO Pat. with Love always. thanks for being there, your two favour ladies, Kate and Squeak.

TO our darling cat. with all our love. Daddy and Bimbo.

TO The Cleat that sat next to me in red trousers in a lakeland inn. Be my valentine.

TO Jonathan S. Here it is for all to see:"I love you very much". GB.

TO creature love insect box. Happy Valentines Day. and. I love your Goof.

TO the Lady Frogess. I'll give you a Ring! All my love always the Sick Twisted & Perverted Gecci. XOOOOOOOOOOO

TO Teddy Bear - Be my Valentine. All my love Tiger.

TO Alex - from your flavour of the decade. I love you lots and lots. Love Nikki.

TO my darling husband Richard. Thanks for a wonderful life. 'Love you always' Barbara xxx

TO mummy. we love you lots and lots. James and Ami XXXXX.

To the most wonderful PEI finalist in the world - Love Pixie.

TO my wonderful husband Robert Harley. I will always love you. Jacqueline.

TO Mummy Eggbead. With all my love to you and our baby. Goosehead.

TOAD you got my Pizza my lady quickie and your Charlie Man.

TO ALAN - Though the years have flown pay I please come home? Love Margaret McGregor Cronin.

TO B. From the SS. So many words have I written to you, but when they are sifted, only three really matter: I love you.

TO BRACKED WHALE All my love. Thanks for Debbie. Alan.

TO BRANBAT from Fruitbat. Have a G'day. Love You.

TO: BIG BEE - from Little Bee. Will you share my rosebud?

TO BOBBY the belcher from Freddie the ferret with love.

TO CAROLE from Mick. This year makes seven. Looking forward to seventy.

TO CD - Let's be inseparable, forever. Soon. MY.

TO COOKIE, Chocolate bears, zoos, romance, pizza, hugs and kisses, love pete.

TO DARLING SLOSHY - Now we have James. I'm even more Hesbury. Bertie.

TO DEAREST SWEET CHOO You take my breath away M.R.

TO DILLONIC - My Bionic Mechanic. Love you always. J.R.

TO EDDIE Love you lots. Lindsey.

TO FINEFACE - Happy Valentines Day. Thanks for a wonderful year. Lots of love. Maggot.

TO FREDDO frogs, new beginnings, love and kisses, pelli pews.

TO FREDDIE You make my life such a paradise.Love always Jules.

TOGETHER we are beautiful. the answer is yes, what about the Vicar.

TO GILLIAN All my love forever. miss you more each day - Kevin.

TO GOULI - I love you. Unc.

TO HMS from RME with my love always. Eleker Deg.

TO HUGGABLE huggly bear. all my love. from Dolly - and of course a sweetie.

TO JAN with all my love and best wishes for the future.

TO JANET Of San Miguel fame (You look lovely). Big Personality.

TO JDAP from CWMP. 14 + 7 = 41 (21.2.88) much love.

TO JEMMA, FROM NICK. Here's to a lifetime of February 14ths.

TO JOANNE Aitken - I love you only, now and forever. fondest love Sandy.

TO KEBAB HEAD - All of my love from Your Little Hoggy. xx

TO LENTILS Love you always. Thanks for all the years together. From Barley De Bungi.

TO LITTLE Piggy - all my love. Cumberland sausage.

TO LITTLE BUG, I love you very much. Big bug.

TO LYN Hillier, perfect, wonderful mother. beautiful lady.

TORR - Always so sweet with you smiling in the dark - Phone me.

TO MINDA my love. Happy Valentine 1988. I love you best. John.

TO MR. only 46 years to go! With all my love AH.

TOSHY Loves Caz-Caz. PS. Whats for tea.

TO MY darling Golly (Mrs VB). Teddy, Jammy the boys and Mr Snoozzle, love you.

TO MY Darling Toad. love you always. S.

TO MY loving neighbour-the other.

TO MY dear S.B. For all you mean to me. My love always. C.S.B.

TO MY Darling Marcie-mouse. Our real Valentines Day is March 20th. All my love, your Peter bear.

TO MY Ardsley rose, forever yours Truffles. by Sunbeam.

TO MY Gos'ford - I love you.

TO MY Sanding Poop. All my love, your Stewing Pie.

TO MY Cupid from your Bear. we have a life time of love to share.

TO MY Little Bear TLC and WPL I'll always be your walrus.

TO MY Spanish dancer with adoration and love beyond that of comparable florid verosity. Rumpole.

TO MY Inspi Sharron. I Love You with all my heart. Jamie.

TO MY BEAUTIFUL Wonderful Wife Kim who I will love forever. Ricky.

TO MY DARLING Scorpio. Love from her devoted Virgo.

TO MY DARLING Jan. I love you more than you will ever know. Andrew.

TO MY DEAREST LIZ - With my fondest love, yours. as ever. Maid

TO MY DEAR FRIEND SALLY - Happy Valentine's Day. All My Love Andrew.

TO MY PRINCESS PUTCHKY - looking forward to Malta - all my love. Munchkin.

TO MY SOLDIER BOY on Valentines Day. I love you always. Your Snow Princess xxx

TOSH - I will always be your loving friend see you very soon.

TONY darling. Happy Valentines day from your strawberries and cream lover. Helen.

TONY I love thee to the depth and breadth and height my soul can reach. Come to me please? SUE.

TONY bleep, meep .... scuttle .... peck, peck .... meep, meep .... Love from The Finch xxxxxxxx

TONY TORRAGS I love and care for you more than these few words can say. Squeaky.

TOOTSIE and her Pisers be my Valentine. from the Resolr Conspiracy.

TO P.B. "Ah, make the most of what we yet may spend, before we too into the dust descend"'

TO PETER - Wellington and I love you very much. Kathy.

TO POLLY This special message for a very special person Marcelle. Emma Jane.

TO PUNCH, with love Bebek.

TO RICHARD - I serve thee with my heart and fall before thee.

TO SARAH May all our dreams come true in Florida. lots of love. Dave.

TO: SARAH BATTY SAINT - Be my Valentine tomorrow. Love from Australia.

TO SHARON My Fussy Valentine, love and kisses, Chat.

TO SHEILA - Though not in the Manor borne, the brood has gone. So to Bret let us fly my Valentine. Hywel.

TO SHENGGY BEAR - we will love you forever. Chrissie and Bollinger.

TO SPIKE - Roses are red, violets are blue you're so adorable I could eat you. Much love Ipsy.

TO TRINY See you in Tasseland. I love you. Wenty.xxxxxxx

TO THE BEST Jody in world all. Love your pal Al.

TO THE BESTEST MUMMY in all the world luv Andrew and Asher.

WANTED by adorable Troll. evening drink maker. Only Scanians need apply.

WAS ever plight to wed, Swich blessed nearnes? Auch troth by Chilly spirt, Swich bear necessitie?

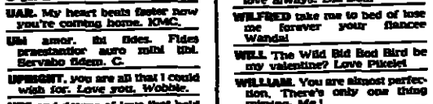
WASHINGTON - Happy Birthday and Valentines Day sweetheart! From other SWTH.

WAVENEY -All my love as always. Lets fight the bulges together! - Sir.

WEBBEN CHOPS - We love you. From your Penguins, Seals and King Penguin.

WELSH Wrigglepuss - Thanks for your help on the flat - keep the bottle in useful - love you - Dave.

WENDY, i miss your love and friendship. My love for you is undiminished - K.



TO TERESA With all my love. Little Yellow Flower.

TO TINY Grist Lots of love and kisses. From your Little Rabbit.

TO UGLY - Happy Valentine's Day tomorrow. Lots of love Blob.

TO VICKY MANLER Let me write on your blank slate. I will fly you to Phuket. Lech The Vamp.

TO WARWICK ROAD Karen from Warwick Road Corny I love you heaps.

TRACEY, St. Mary's The Orangery, Lardigras - Not long now! All my love. Murray.

TRACY Long ago, now far away, but I always remember - Nick.

TRIANGLE- I love you. No fights in '88. Eh? Happy V.D. PJV.

TRICIA the pleasure are ready so is the chair all I need is you. M.E.

TRICIA and Roxanne. Happy Valentines Day! L. A & T.

TRISH I love always have done and always will do. Tim.

TRUE Blue, can a faithful slightly pink fruit pastille, turn you purple?

TRUMPY Stop you grinnin' and drop your fnesi All my love. Bear.

TUBS, love Hubs!

TURANDOT: Li Cable's song was meant for you, alas I can never sing it to you.xxx

TWIN I love you. Let me be yours forever. Miss you. Twin.

TWIZZLE we shall always be newlyweds. My love forever darling. Rods XXXX.

TWOBAR - I love you always. Love from Nollar

TWO ESSES ENTWINED : Closer and closer, with desire undimmed - we two.

U got 2 me.

UAR. My heart beats faster now you're coming home. KMC.

Ubi amor, ibi fides. Fides praestantior auro mihi tibi. Servabo fidem. C.

UPRIGHT. you are all that I could wish for. Love you, Wobble.

UPS and downs of love that held Teddy Bear. love Frosy Jenny.

UPYAWS Kelsi From Slug, Miffer, Darley, Dickend, Whopeing C** and Dinkie Lambert.

V. Chester embraasements. Alanah. J.H.R.

V.F.I. I Love You. Now And Forever. OUr Time Will Come. MADCAP.

VAL - Darling I love you so much, sorry im not with you today and always.

VALERIE. Still for above rubies after thirty-five years.

VALENTINTHE. All my thoughts are Gray. Where are you? I love you now and always. Jay.

VANESSA Pedlar. 4 months 16 days already. terrific. more please. Love Marc.

VAUXHALL Jo, you are always on my mind.

VBR: It is a long, wild and wonderful route from Burnt Norton to Little Gidding. The key is to find the right direction - of which you have new secured me. Could there be a fifth quartet ? PS: Next year happy Valentine in Cairo ?

VENERA - So you know it's for you, it's from Pooh. T.G.T.B.T.

VIBRANT adorable lovely elegant natural terrific inspirational nice Elizabeth. Love John.

VICE CHAIRMAN with love on St Valentines Day from your patriotic doormouse.



VICKI - Yet another fantastic year. Love you lots from your one and only HIPPO.

VICTORIA Every look, every smile, every touch and..... I love you. John.

VIDERUS Nunc. Anne. Per Specutum in Aenigmate; tunc Autem Coram in cor charitatis.

VILLAGE GIRL Usual love plus bonus £2.00 experiment with a chemist.

VIRGINIA Campagnole. Encore une année des trails et des activités. Mon. V.

VIV. My God its so nice. P.S. Happy Birthday for yesterday.

VIVIENNE. Beaucoup d'amour pour une petite ours d'un grand ours.

W. Omnia vincit amor et nos cedamus amori early Victorian Turkey.

WANDA Tring Today Eastwick Tommorrow? Stay Enigmatik - Tooth Lover.

WENDY: Simply - I love you very much. This is our year.

WENDY After seventeen years you are still my best break. Love and a red rose. Dave.

WENDY I sit here looking across to Orrion and thinking of you earning a crust. How nice.

WENDY my Valentine say yes at Hassop. Paul.

WENDY and Kayleigh hoping you will born be my valentines love Clive.

WENDY same love new life. Love and admire you always. AML Dave.

WENDY I but you don't whinge again! Remember, me you - always.

WENDY ALLEN Stratford-Upon-Avon. Happy Valentines Day, Love you always. Geoff.

WEREWOLF Loves Boo Boo Bear.

WHALE My love means ferret and mole and moo too.

WHALE Much love from the Chino, things will be nice soon.

WHAT do you think of this years then Charlie? Love Doris.

WHERE are you are, where are you be. I'll always think of thee.

WHO said what legs them there bandy legs, which "Hic" brandy legs.

WHO's going to love itsy Piglet forever - me thats who.

WHEELES and Keeley. I love you for all times, Paul.

WIF - My darling. I love you. garanfuun much and I always will. Love Doobie.

WIFFLEY WOO I love you true.

WIGGSEY WOO - Where's my higgle bugale. Still love you. DSH.

WIGSY is the one for me - the one with whom I want to spree. All love always. Did-Dod.

WILFRED take me to bed of lose me forever your fiancee Wanda!

WILL The Wild Bid Bod Bird be my valentine? Love Pixelet

WILLIAM. You are almost perfection. There's only one thing missing- Me.!

WITH all my love, for a super Valentines Day. C.

WITH Love to the three ladies of my life Julie, Abbie, and Becky.

WITH all my love as always for bear and the lomp, Wifey.

WORRIATI Listen to the wild eyed boy from Free Cloud. when he says he loves you.

WONKY Our time is near forever Quackers.

WOOKIE POOKIE needs pookie wookie. Build the house. Love you, always forever.

WOOLLY BEAR Happy Valentines day. Heaps of lub and kisses.xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

WORMY Can't wait for you to wriggle home. Love. Friar Tuck.

WRINKLES love today and every day from your saucy Nancy. XXXX.

YANA JANINA Artsutus point or bust your Maple Bay Lover.

YEA, verily. obmutescently. mucucpatively. mychthemerally. embyroolatsially. I love you. Neu.

YEARS have come and years have gone but you are still my valentine. Love Wriddles.

YO POPCORN! Hope our first Valentines is hot! xxToyboyxx.

YOU Always have been and always will be my Valentine. Always Ron.

YOU Are the best She Monkey in the jungle. From He Monkey.

YOU are my Valentine, my own Marie Libertine. more than you imagine.

You can pop my cork anytime. Susan! All my love, Brian.

YOU HAVE made 24 years seem like 24 minutes. Thanks, all my love Dave.

YOUR Slightly crankier frogiet sends you all his love for the 10th Valentine. C.

YOUR well-kept undertakings. even when grave. gives you her first, second and etc bango.

YOUR love for us grows more every day. Love and k

TIMES DIARY

SIMON BARNES

Sport is like a shark: it must keep moving forward or it dies. The Indonesians made a great leap forward in the cause of football last weekend when they staged a match between two teams of elephants. Showing all the speed and subtlety one normally associates with a Scotland back four, the teams, formerly wild elephants from Sumatra, put up a splendid show at the match in Jakarta. A trophy was presented to the winning team by President Suharto.

Here in Britain, exoticism can get you a bad name. In a recent match between Marshside and Brixton, a player had his name taken. On giving it, he was instantly sent off, for giving a false name. Marshside are appealing against this injustice: honestly, ref, his real name *is* Faramaz Bozorgzad-Moghin.

The score was 2-2, and there were four minutes left to play: this was obviously the moment for a manager to show all his powers of leadership and decision-making. So, as Enfield and Weymouth were locked in battle in the GM Vauxhall Conference, Enfield decided to make a substitution: to take off Nicky Francis. Unfortunately David Jones, the trainer, couldn't find the number boards used for summoning a player from the pitch. He scampered off to fetch them, ran back to the bench – and found that things had changed Enfield were indulging in the ritual orgy of congratulation. They had scored a late winner. The goal-scorer? Nicky Francis.

They say it's bad luck to change a horse's name, and so it is proving with Mighty Flash, Mark Todd's Olympic three-day event gold medallist. The former eventer is now embarking on a career as racehorse under the name I'm Bad. His recent exploits seem to bear him out: falling at the first fence, a second place when he should have won, if only he had kept a straight course, and now being knocked to the ground by another horse.

As any cricket historian will tell you, the first Australian cricket team to tour England was an all-aborigine party. Indeed, there is a nonsensical legend that the Ashes are not the ashes of a pair of bails but those of a dead aborigine cricketer. Now, 120 years after the first tour, the Australian Aboriginal Cricket Association is sending a party to tour England this summer. They will play county second elevens, Minor counties and various club and celebrity teams. To make the whole thing go with a zing, they are bringing a troupe of dancers and singers who will perform at the cricket grounds. I can't wait for didgeridoos at Lord's.

The Maracana stadium in Brazil is one of the most famous sporting arenas in the world, and is still the biggest. How embarrassing, then, for a big match between Flamengo and Vasco da Gama to be abandoned because of bad light – the floodlights failed. Doubtless it is events such as this that have affected Octavio Pinto Guimares, president of the Brazilian football federation. At the end of a recent rather lengthy dinner with friends – "the few friends that remain to him", as one newspaper unkindly put it – he performed a full and uncompromising strip-tease. Senhor Guimares is 70.

BARRY FANTONI



'I hope their chairman doesn't own a Welsh holiday cottage'

Now that I am back from the United States, I can return to important subjects, such as the selection of an all-time Nightmare XI. Matt Vallance scoffs at the teams so far offered, despising Chopper Harris and Norman "Bite Yer Leg" Hunter as "soft southerners". "If you want an XI to kick for your life, it has to comprise eleven Scots," he writes. His selection is: Jock Wallace (Rangers), Danny McGrain (Celtic), Tom Forsyth (Rangers), Kenny Burns (Notts Forest), John Greig (Rangers), Dave Mackay (Tottenham), Graeme Souness (Rangers), Billy Bremner (Leeds), Willie Johnston (Rangers), Joe Jordan (Leeds) and Denis Law (Manchester United). His subs are Bruce Rioch (Derby) and Gregor Stevens (Rangers). The manager, of course, can be none other than the great Ally MacLeod, the man who, in the words of one of his players, "thought tactics were a kind of peppermint". A *Times* tenner to Mr Vallance for his team.

Old bits of sporting tat can be worth a fortune these days. It is an ever-expanding market and Angus Gull, head of sporting memorabilia at Phillips, the auctioneers, says: "We have seen amazing prices paid for golfing and cricket memorabilia. Tennis and football have started to take off in a big way and now it's the turn of boxing." Phillips is holding an auction of head-bangers' memorabilia in London on April 13. It has 100 boxing lots, including a bust of Tom Sayers, England's most famous bare-fisted boxer of his day – in the mid-19th century – that might fetch £150. There are also plaques, glasses, prints and books. And if that fails to whet the appetite, there are various items from real sports as well, including a baseball signed by Babe Ruth.

Dennis Kavanagh on present-day echoes of a fateful election

Lawson's bad advice

The gathering industrial unrest among Ford workers, nurses, seamen and Nacods has echoes of the crisis "Who Governs?" election 14 years ago. The circumstances in which the February 28 election was called and in which the Heath government fell were a traumatic experience for many. So much so that when the Institute of British Contemporary History this week invited participants to discuss the events, only one former minister appeared.

Of the Heath Cabinet only Mrs Thatcher, Sir Geoffrey Howe and Peter Walker still remain in office. But it has also emerged that one key actor was a journalist and party adviser who was first to argue for an early election. That outsider is the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, Nigel Lawson.

Although elected in 1970 on a platform of outright opposition to prices and incomes policies, by 1974 the Heath government felt itself forced into the election to defend far-reaching bureaucratic controls over them. The change was due above all to the 1972 miners' strike and the humiliating 22 per cent wage settlement (courtesy of Lord Wilberforce in February 1972).

The crucial new factor was the Arab/Israeli war and then the Arabs' decisions to quadruple the price of oil and impose quotas. The Government's strategy for economic growth collapsed and an already bad balance of payments would worsen. These developments enormously strengthened the miners' bargaining hand. On November 8 the NUM executive voted for an overtime ban. By the new year the country was on a three-day working week.

Ministers were convinced that Conservative backbenchers and activists would not stomach another sell-out to the miners. If the Government conceded, other poweful groups would also break through the Stage III incomes policy limits. One way out was to call a general election.

Most of those Tories pressing for an early election, although not necessarily "hawks", felt that fighting an election against unpopular trade unions would be a vote-winning platform.

A rather different and secret analysis – but leading to the same conclusion – came from Nigel Lawson, who had started work as a special political adviser in Central Office in early October 1973. He immediately argued for an election because the economy was overheating. When the miners began a work-to-rule, he had a good case and submitted a forceful and detailed memorandum to Mr Heath on November 9.

By early January many voices were pressing for an early election. The area agents and chairmen and Central Office, notably Lord Carrington, the party chairman, and James Prior, a deputy chairman, favoured calling one for February 7. But Heath gave no signal and the opportunity was passed by.

Mr Heath feared such an election. If the Conservatives won, particularly by a big majority, there was no guarantee that this would get the miners back to work. Until the last, William Whitelaw also hoped to use his conciliatory skills upon the miners. (Even today he regrets that he was not in closer contact with Carrington and able to caution him in pressing for an election.)

The catalyst for Mr Heath was the decision on February 4 of the NUM to vote for an all-out strike. Three days later he called an election for February 28.

February 1974 is the classic example of the danger that the weapon of dissolution can be for the prime minister who uses it. If he wins, he simply continues in government and the government as a whole gets the credit. But if he gets the date wrong he loses all, and shoulders all the blame. In 1974 the Tories had a secure majority and 16 months of their mandate to run.

The result was the worst possible for Mr Heath. Although the Conservatives had a majority of 200,000 votes over Labour they had four fewer seats. Early on the Friday afternoon, Harold Wilson was told to stand by, but heard no more. Because no party had a majority Mr Heath was entitled to soldier on and see if he could gain support elsewhere. Although friendly noises had been made by Mr Grimond and Mr Thorpe, there was never any chance that Thorpe could deliver a united Liberal party. At a second Cabinet meeting on March 2 Heath resigned. It was a humiliating end to a stormy premiership.

The election had widely differing consequences for politicians. Wilson had made no preparations for victory. The fading Labour Party got a shot in the arm and the Social Contract was a political lifeline. For the next two years the TUC was the invisible presence at Labour Cabinet meetings.

The impact on the Conservative Party was considerable. Although Mr Heath hung on as leader for another 12 months his time had passed. Sir Keith Joseph called for an end to incomes policies, the abandonment of the commitment to full employment and for strict control of money supply. He and Mrs Thatcher knew that in the era of Social Contracts the Tories could never compete with Labour. On learning that Heath's gamble had failed, Enoch Powell went for his morning bath singing a Te Deum.

Since 1974 the NUM has weakened, divided and been routed in its strike in 1984-85. There have been no further attempts at statutory incomes policies and Mrs Thatcher's government has not been willing to compromise its authority in bargaining with the TUC and CBI.

If Mr Heath had dissolved Parliament even a week earlier, let alone called an election for February 7, he would surely have won. If he had won he would have remained prime minister, and who knows what would have happened to Mrs Thatcher Or, had he lost more decisively in February and stepped down, again it is doubtful if Mrs Thatcher would have emerged.

Mr Heath has never come to terms with the succession. Yet his own decisions bear a heavy responsibility for Mrs Thatcher's rise. The whole episode remains for politicians an alarming example of the unintended consequences of political action.

The author is professor of politics at the University of Nottingham.

Frank Johnson

Well, what do you know?

Merrimack

To the New Hampshire primary again. This is my third. If that does not sound like many, or the fruit of vast experience, it should be borne in mind that this is only the tenth in all history.

The casual reader or television viewer could be forgiven for assuming that the institution is as old as the republic. The European, however, should always be on guard against assuming anything to be old in the New World except the constitution and the current president. This is a nation in which the legend "est. since 1958" above a department store is a proud boast. So it is with the New Hampshire primary, established only in 1952.

Someone here had the idea of adding New Hampshire to the then small list of states which had presidential primaries. Someone else had the idea of passing a state law to the effect that New Hampshire's should come before anyone else's.

The hope was to attract attention to an otherwise modest polity. New Hampshire has trees, snow, lakes, an almost entirely white population, and the slogan on its car number plates: "Live free or die". It is like Sweden without the social workers. But it had lacked attention. The primary was to provide it, though it could be argued that it also emphasized the obscurity of the intervening four years. If so, the people here do not seem to mind the period of lesser fame. Their attitude through the event which makes them immortal every four years is not – as we shall see – what others might assume.

For many of us who first came to the primary in 1980, or who are coming for the first time now, it is not really our first visit. We have been coming ever since 1960. That was when the institution was codified and made lyrical by the prose of the late Theodore H. White in his account of the 1960 presidential year, *The Making of the President*.

John Kennedy was the first to realize the benefit, in the television age, of a well organized campaign in New Hampshire. By defeating senators Humphrey and Symington here, he created his candidacy, and Mr White was on hand to create the New Hampshire primary as we know it. A thousand television special reports all over the world have depicted Mr White's version every four years, no matter how drab the candidates, ever since. So by the time the visitor arrives here, he knows much about it: the trees, the lakes, and the cold; the youthful, snow-flecked John Kennedy shaking hands at the factory gate; the grimy local metropolis called Manchester; the rascally local newspaper, *The Manchester Union Leader*, which defies all the tenets of American liberal journalism (it is against it).

Admittedly, these things are known only to followers of American politics – a minority sport. Other people have acquired comparable lore about American football. Each to his own Americana. Both are examples of the way in which in the 20th century America's imagery has impressed itself on the rest of the world.



Hollywood, and later television, have done the same for the typical midwestern American town, with its lunch counter, soda fountain, Saturday night hop, mass murderer or nearby visitors from outer space. Most Britons must know that place better than they know, say, Scunthorpe. No colourful Americana is needed, then, from New Hampshire or indeed from America. In any case, Americana is not always a reliable guide to Americans. Both are inclined to change.

In 1980 I came here via New York, where I had had a conversation with one of that city's famed barmen – a master of the role allotted him in all Americana. From fallible memory it was along the lines of: "Going to Noo Hampshire, eh? Listen, I'll tell yer about Noo Hampshire. It's totally unrepresentative. I mean *toe-tarly*, yet it gets to choose the president, almost. Let me put it in terms of your country. Your Queen is chosen at a big ceremony in Windsor Abbey. Right?"

"Right." I agreed, since this was no time for constitutional nuances.

"Now, Wales is a *toe-tarly* unrepresentative place right up in the north of England. Right?"

"Er, right."

"Well, it's as if Wales got to vote on the Queen before London did."

The explanation for this was that by 1980 the heavy newspapers were full of the "unrepresentative" nature of the New Hampshire primary. The people there were "untypical", it was said. On the face of it, they were certainly untypical: typical people did not talk like them. "Hi, we're independent-minded people in this state, unspectacular but steady, and we don't like our views being dictated to us by the big city news media."

Little old ladies in supermarkets, asked their opinion of the primary contest, would in 1980 smoothly reply: "Well, Bush's upset win over Reagan in the Iowa caucuses has given him that indefinable something called momentum. Now it's up to Reagan to draw on his bedrock support in this fundamentally conservative state. And remember. No one since 1952 has ever been elected president without first winning New Hampshire."

But by this week the cheeerful greeting to strangers has tended to be something like: "Hi. Here for the Primary? You know, the way I see it, there must be something wrong about a system which gives disproportionate power to a tiny state like us which, in the real election in November, has hardly any electoral votes worth speaking of."

What we seem to have in New Hampshire are the representative views of America's sturdy editorial writers, television anchor men and political scientists. But the New Hampshire people do not seem to be offended. Otherwise they would not have adopted the same view themselves. That view was put more pithily than any specialist could achieve by a lady at the bar of the Coach Inn, Concorde: "Here we are in Cluelessville. First in the nation. We are supposed to choose the president. And what the f— do *we* know about it?"

This struck me as being so beautifully put that I asked if I might quote by name the authoress – Mrs Katheryn Bogart, of Holderness, N.H. (no relation, she regretted). Even as she spoke, at least one TV news programme was probably doing a special about the pretentions of New Hampshire voters.

The last few days have also undermined the theory that New Hampshire people are particularly independent-minded. Opinion polls here have changed with the Iowa caucuses results. But these developments also undermine any theory that New Hampshire is untypical of America. By repeating the news media's latest line about them, New Hampshire voters are doing themselves a big service.

As Mrs Bogart said, what do they know about it? But What does America know yet? No matter how dull an American election year looks like being, something always happens to enliven it. Something so far has been the rise of Mr Robertson and the decline of Mr Bush. After next Tuesday's primary, there will be new excitements – to that minority of us who have stayed with American politics while all others have opted for the football. For those of us whose attitude to endless trees, snow, and lakes is one of take it or leave it, that is the real beauty of New Hampshire.

Commentary • MICHAEL KINSLEY

Greasing the sole

Washington.

A man who styles himself "Gregory Stock Ph.D." got rich last year with a bestseller called *The Book of Questions* – a simple compendium of puzzles for armchair moralists. One was: "Would you accept $1,000,000 to leave the country and never set foot in it again?"

I was reminded of this by the recent news that Roger Miranda Bengoechea is to get $800,000 from the American taxpayers for having defected from the Sandinista directorate in Nicaragua. The Reagan administration has been parading him around Washington for the past couple of months with dark tales of Sandinista malefactions.

It's unclear whether he was paid by the word, like a freelance writer. It's also unclear whether the offer is available to any Nicaraguan, or only to proven high-level bad guys.

This free-market approach has great promise. The next step, clearly, is to take the $36 million that Congress has just voted not to send to the Contras and offer it to the Sandinistas – provided they adjourn *en masse* to Miami. This would be a foreign policy initiative in keeping with the Reaganite philosophy of the 1980s: "Make money, not war."

Perhaps Yosef Shapira also read *The Book of Questions*. Shapira, a minor Israeli cabinet minister, created a stir in October by proposing that Israeli Arabs be offered $20,000 each to leave the country. This set the stage for a bidding war. Sari Nusseibeh, a prominent Palestinian moderate, replied indignantly: "If he's offering $20,000 to every Arab to leave, I'm sure the Arab countries will offer $40,000 for every Jew to leave." Many Israeli Jews would gladly offer more than that for Shapira himself to leave, rightly regarding his proposal as vulgar and provocative.

Nevertheless, one West Bank Palestinian showed up at Shapira's office and said he would be happy to leave for $20,000. Shapira wouldn't fork out. But who can blame this would-be expatriate? If the Jews of the Bible spent 40 years wandering in the desert, waiting to enter the promised land, the West Bank and Gaza Palestinians have now spent 40 years in suspended animation – half that time under Arab rule, half under Jewish – waiting for something similar.

Maybe the problem is that Shapira's offer wasn't generous enough. Could we settle this thing for a million bucks apiece? There are 1.35 million Arabs in the occupied territories. Figuring that not all would take up the offer, the whole package might cost a trillion dollars. Call it $50 billion a year for 20 years. If the Israeli-Arab conflict isn't already costing the world $50 billion a year, it's close.

Is bribing people to give up their national dreams immoral? Two moral visions conflict here. One was described by the political philosopher Michael Walzer in his 1983 book *Spheres of Justice*: justice requires that we keep money in its own sphere, and not permit it to dominate all aspects of life. You can't sell yourself into slavery, for example, no matter what the price.

The other vision is the basic moral logic of capitalism: if an exchange is truly voluntary, by definition it leaves the parties better off, at least by their own lights. Money is the universal solvent. Convert anything into money, and then convert your money into anything else, however seemingly incompatible. Money, perhaps, can even turn swords into ploughshares.

The Israelis argue, with much justice, that the nations of the world absorbed millions of refugees after the Second World War (including half a million Jews expelled by Arab nations and taken in by Israel). Only the Palestinians have held out – or been left to rot in a cynical ploy by their Arab brothers to undermine the Jewish state.

After 40 years, Palestinian nationalism has become genuine. But if there is a price at which an economic solution can salve a spiritual complaint, who is to say it shouldn't be paid? Or, to rephrase *The Book of Questions*: would you let your children grow up in squalor rather than leave your country? Few Americans would be here today if their ancestors felt that way.

There may be things money can't buy, but money in sufficient quantities can buy quite a bit. Right now, no one wants the Palestinians, including their fellow Arabs. A $1 million dowry might change minds. Already a million dollars will get you past immigration in many countries.

In the vast desert expanses of the Middle East, the Palestinians could even build themselves a state, an oasis of highways and air-conditioning. The Saudis are building just such a modern complex from scratch – industry, housing, airport, everything – for 380,000 people at a cost of about $45 billion, or only $118,000 apiece.

Am I serious? Oh, no. Practical problems aside, the whole idea is rationalism carried to irrational lengths. This isn't how the world works. But given how the world does work, it hardly seems right to call this free-market fantasy immoral. Bribing people certainly seems preferable to beating them.

The author is Editor of New Republic.

SCIENCE REPORT

Tuned-up conductor

Tokyo

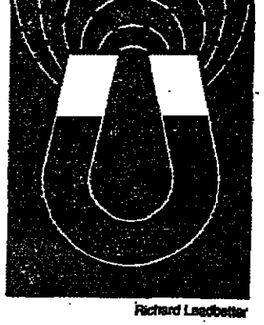
The race to find new superconducting materials has been stimulated by a surprise discovery two weeks ago by Dr Hiroshi Maeda at Japan's National Research Institute of Metals. He found that a material based on the oxides of bismuth, strontium, calcium and copper becomes a perfect conductor of electricity when cooled to -168° Centigrade.

This is significant because it signals a class of superconductors distinct from those on which much attention has been lavished in the past year. Maeda's bismuth-based oxide also becomes a superconductor at a temperature 10 degrees above that of -178°C at which research appears to have been stuck for months.

As with all superconductors, the property of conducting electricity perfectly emerges in the new material only as it is cooled below a certain point, called the "transition temperature". The precise value of this temperature determines the ease with which materials can be put to practical use.

The new development will release some of the mounting frustration of the past months. Until November 1986, superconductivity was exclusively a property of very low temperatures, within at most 10 or 20 degrees of the absolute zero of temperature, below which nothing can be cooled (-273°C, equal to 0° Kelvin). This is why existing uses of superconductors, in the magnets of certain body-scanners, for example, must be cooled, expensively, in liquid helium.

The physicists Muller and Bednorz, of Zurich, were last year awarded a prize for showing, in November, that a ceramic based on the oxides of barium and copper becomes 35 degrees above absolute zero (35°K). But the excitement stems from the report a year ago by C.W. Chu of the University of Houston, Texas, that a ceramic based on the oxides of yttrium, barium and copper becomes a superconductor at 85°K, which happens to be above the boiling point of liquid nitrogen.



Richard Leadbetter

Despite the eager search for new materials since then, the highest transition temperature of a ceramic oxide based on one of the rare-earths such as yttrium and lanthanum has not exceeded 95°K. Though there have been reports of materials superconducting at room temperature, none of these has been substantiated.

A further frustration during the past year has been the failure to understand why the ceramic oxides become superconductors at all.

Maeda's discovery has unleashed another wave of excitement. Within five days, Chu said he had made a superconducting oxide in which aluminium partly replaces bismuth. Within a week, Maeda's result had been confirmed at the University of Birmingham, thanks to the presence of a British technical mission in Japan.

In Tokyo, chemical suppliers have been inundated with orders for chemicals including the elements bismuth and antimony. Maeda's new material, although also a ceramic, is said to be much easier to work than the rare-earth oxides. Sanyo Electric already claims to have made a thin film of Maeda's materials which is superconducting at 80°K, a development that took months with the rare-earth ceramics.

Other Japanese researchers say they are on the point of making pure crystals of Maeda's compound, which in its original form seems to be a mixture of two superconductors, with transition temperatures of 75 and 105°K.

This is a crucial step towards understanding the phenomenon. Japanese researchers are also hoping that this time they will win full credit for their work, on which 2,500 people are engaged.

DAVID SWINBANKS

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THE TIMES PAST

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UNMASKING OF A PRESIDENT

Kurt Waldheim should go. That is not a magisterial judgement on the extent of his guilt or innocence in the war. It is not solely even a moral censure on the man. It is to denounce his suitability for the presidency of a Western democracy. In the interests of his country he should resign.

This will be a poignant spring for Austrians with long memories. It was 50 years ago yesterday that Hitler met the Austrian Chancellor Kurt von Schuschnigg at Berchtesgaden and forced him to accept leading Nazis in his cabinet, with threats of massive military intervention. Next month sees the 50th anniversary of the Anschluss itself, when Hitler's troops crossed the border to force a union with Germany and received a welcome from Austrians which surprised even Hitler himself.

Im an interview this week with a newspaper in Vienna Dr Waldheim has admitted being aware of Nazi atrocities in the war which followed. "Practically every soldier in the Balkans knew that reprisal actions were carried out", he said. Until recently, however, he had consistently denied any knowledge of atrocities. That deception alone ill fits him for the office he holds.

His position was certainly not unique. Austria has largely escaped the agonized introspection of West Germany since the war. A small neutral country, outside Nato and the European community, it has avoided being the focal point of international attention. There must be many Kurt Waldheims in Vienna, who have dissembled and tried to obliterate their memories. But that makes it more, not less, important, that their head of state should be beyond reproach in this respect.

President Waldheim's reaction to this week's report by the historical commission which has been investigating his past was to claim that he had been exonerated. But this was far from the case. While no evidence of war crimes was found against him, the criticism of the panel (whose account of his war career differed in many points from his own) was unequivocal.

The report said that the commission learned of no case in which the young Waldheim – in the face of an instruction whose injustice he undoubtedly recognized – lodged an appeal, protested or took any opposing measures to prevent or at least delay the injustice.

Until recently, Dr Waldheim had always maintained that during his time in the army he was bound as a soldier to carry out his duty without question. Regardless of the nature of an order, he had seen a binding principle in executing commands to which he had to submit himself.

The commission rightly refused to accept this justification. "Judicial rulings on wartime issues made since the war, particularly those made during the Nuremburg trials, have on several occasions confirmed that military orders do not have unlimited vafidity even in wartime", it said. "Orders have limits, particularly when they contradict the demands of justice and morality, and the demands of humanity."

There must be many to whom this would apply. What distinguishes them from Kurt Waldheim is that they did not become Secretary-General of the United Nations – then stand for election for the presidency of their country. In standing for public office, he had to take public responsibility for his own past acts and his country's future. He also had to expose himself and his country, to the gaze of a critical world.

His handling of the crisis has been inept. Had he been more frank and open at the start, he might have escaped the relentless pursuit for the whole truth. The people of Austria, offended by "interference" from abroad, had voted him into office and might have been happy to keep him there. By coming to terms with his own past he might even have helped others to do the same.

But this was not to be. If Dr Waldheim, even at this late stage, had accepted the commission's criticism, and asked simply for international understanding – of a young man in the war, aware of what was happening, yet afraid, he might still have won some sympathy and support. As it is, he will be chased throughout his presidency by speculation and controversy and a paper trail of evidence, faked or real. He should make retreat with as much dignity as is left to him.

BEYOND STALKER

Yesterday the Stalker affair went to Brussels. The public disagreement between the British and Irish prime ministers helped to worsen – if that were possible – the melancholy atmosphere of bitterness surrounding the EEC summit.

The real issues, however, stayed at home. Two separate sets of questions stand out. Both have more to do with Britain's governance than with its foreign relations.

The first concerns a conspiracy to pervert the course of justice by policemen. Can a government overlook such a crime? Can it provide assurances that such things cannot occur again?

What is the proper relationship of a chief constable, the Home Office Inspectorate and a senior investigating officer when there is a matter inside a police force which requires inquiry from outside? Where should the line be drawn between the independence of a chief constable and his supervision by other authorities?

The second set of questions arises from the specific events which ended Mr Stalker's part in the inquiry into the controversial killings by Royal Ulster Constabulary officers. Mr Stalker thinks that the evidence points to a high-level decision to terminate his inquiry because it had become embarrassing and that the disciplinary investigation into his conduct was a mere excuse – and one which ended his police career. Has he been unjustly treated; or has he stained the reputations of others unable to defend themselves?

The second set is less important than the first. So far we have only Mr Stalker's side of this story. His conclusions about the decisions which led to his suspension are inferential only. It remains at least possible that he was removed from the inquiry not in order to end it, but in order to protect it – that an investigation into his conduct would interfere with its successful completion, which required a new officer in charge.

How does the Government begin to solve the important questions and also set about limiting the damage to policing in Northern Ireland and the aid and comfort which the whole mess offers the IRA? The decision not to prosecute was ill-judged but it is impractical to hope for the decision on individual prosecutions to be reversed, least of all after yesterday's remarks by Mr Haughey. A private report to the Northern Ireland Secretary and some equally private disciplinary proceedings will equally plainly fall short of what is required to clear the air.

As a first step, a judge with security clearance should be asked to review the large quantity of documents, few of them in the public domain, which tell much of the story. He or she should be equipped with a further power to call witnesses, to allow them representation if required and to grant immunity from prosecution if necessary.

The inquiry should not aim primarily to analyse a decision which in all likelihood cannot be changed. It should look to prevent such things happening again. Above all, it should be rapid. The judge should operate in private and publish as many of his conclusions as possible. If this format throws up insuperable procedural difficulties, the Government faces no choice other than a full judicial inquiry.

In a society threatened by persistent terrorism there are few issues of greater importance than the quality and accountability of the security forces. If the Government considered Mr Stalker qualified to conduct such an important inquiry, it should be ready to have answered – and seen to be answered – the questions he has raised in this vital area.

THE LOST COMMANDMENTS

The Government has given several indications recently of its concern with personal morality. The speech by the Home Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd, to members of the General Synod of the Church of England on Wednesday night was only the latest instance of a theme which has embraced the campaign against Aids, among others.

Mr Hurd concentrated on the relationship between personal morality and crime, arguing that some sections of today's population had apparently no concept of morality at all, and were quite indifferent to the suffering of innocent people from thoughtless and selfish violence. To remedy this was beyond the scope of the Government, he suggested. It was rather the job of the churches and other religious institutions to repair this moral deficiency.

Implicit in the Government's stance is a certain criticism of the churches and a certain encouragement to them to do something about it. As viewed from Whitehall, the churches – and the Church of England is the one most in mind – are too preoccupied with secondary matters; they are failing to grasp that society is in a moral condition which urgently needs their attention.

The churches need no reminding that the traditional moral precepts of Christianity are generally in retreat, and that people are much more likely to worry about their rights than their sins. It is plausible to explain this retreat as a product of the retreat of religious faith itself. To put the point at its most basic, people who do not believe in God will not believe that the Ten Commandments were revealed by God as binding rules.

The Government would be wise not to oversimplify. The secularization of British society has no easy remedy. It affects European civilization generally. There are many upstanding members of society who do not look to religious faith as the basis of their morality. In certain areas of morality, furthermore, there is no undisputed answer, inside or outside the churches, some believing that abortion is the great moral scourge, some that it is divorce or homosexuality, some indeed that it is racial or sexual discrimination, or the existence of nuclear weapons.

There is merit in Mr Hurd's case for the uncontroversial commandments none the less – more merit than in his colleague, Mr Gummer's efforts to cross swords with the bishops over the controversial ones. The Church of England has not properly balanced the difficulty of making subtle moral distinctions and the duty of representing to the public the basic tenets of Christian personal morality. Too much sensitivity to hard cases has begun to obscure the clarity of the Church's teaching, and has conveyed an impression that there is no clear Christian teaching to be had on anything.

There is plenty for preachers and teachers to say that society needs to hear, and where no controversy or confusion exists. Lying, dishonesty, adultery, violence against the innocent, the abuse of children, the neglect of family responsibilities, drug taking, and the selfish promotion of one's own interests to the detriment of others, are wrong. Religious leaders have a duty to say so more loudly, and can only gain respect for doing so. If they think it justified, they can always include the Government in such criticisms.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Understanding in marital stress

From the Chairman of the Institute of Marital Studies

Sir, The case for supporting research into marriage is well made by your leader (February 6). Sadly, it will not receive the approbation it deserves.

Because marriage is often regarded as the inner sanctum of family life many people declare it a "no-go" area when the subject of research comes up. In contrast, when the issue is child abuse, stress at work, or, as your leader suggests, Aids, the response is entirely different. Perversely, the connections between these issues and what happens in marriage go unnoticed or unremarked upon.

The collective habit of turning a blind eye to the causes and consequences of marital stress can have disastrous results when practised by couples whose marriages run into trouble. A willingness to take a look, which may lead to a better understanding, can make the world of a difference.

To those who fear that the spirit of enquiry is potentially damaging to marriages it may help to know that ordinary couples who have participated in sensitively-conducted research have valued the experience. More damaging is the ostrich-like mentality of not wanting to know when things are going wrong.

The Institute of Marital Studies is facing a greater demand today than at any other time in its 40-year history from couples who, having reached a crisis point, want to understand why their marriages are in trouble. Do we, collectively, have to leave it so late before becoming convinced of the value of investing in the security of tomorrow's family by understanding what is happening today?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER CLULOW,
Chairman,
Institute of Marital Studies,
The Tavistock Centre,
Belsize Lane, NW3.
February 11.

From the Honorary Chairman of the National Family Trust

Sir, Your leader, following up the recent features on marriage (February 1, 2, 3), is most welcome. If we wish our culture to survive and develop the social cohesion of which the Home Secretary spoke last week (report, February 6), we must buttress marriage. In part that involves public and private investment in marital research and marital education.

We must recognise also that there is little regarding child welfare which does not depend upon marriage and committed coparenthood. Public policies, the ideology of voluntary bodies, including child-care agencies, as well as personal practice are necessarily involved.

The need for educational investment in this and the next generation of marriages has become urgent. Yet those who are professionally concerned with prevention, as you point out, are starved of resources. Already our poorly-orchestrated remedial services cannot take the burden of marital conflict.

Will backers of prevention, which is an educational matter, please come forward? Relevant schools curriculum development projects have already waited years for funding in both the independent and public sectors.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD WHITFIELD,
Honorary Chairman,
The National Family Trust,
c/o The Salvation Army
(Legal Section),
101 Queen Victoria Street, EC4.

From the Reverend D. G. Richards

Sir, In the many hours a priest spends preparing couples for marriage and warning them that life isn't all white lace and confetti, it is a sad verdict on us and them that they very rarely come back to us when the marriage is floundering.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK RICHARDS,
The Rectory, Church Walk,
Llandudno, Gwynedd.

Drumming up Drake

From Mr Hugh V. Roberts

Sir, It would be interesting to know which local historians prompted Mr Folley's remarkable suggestion (February 4) that the crews of Spanish 16th-century men o' war may have been responsible for the alleged "almost Latin features" of present-day inhabitants of the Tenterden area.

From the 14th century until late in the 16th century numbers of ships, several for the king's service, were built at Smallhythe, within the Hundred of Tenterden, in the tidal estuary of the river Rother, and in 1449 the Town and Hundred of Tenterden, as it is still known today, received a royal charter as a member of the Confederation of the Cinque Ports and a limb of Rye.

Although by the end of the 15th century the size of the royal ships had greatly increased and the continuing reclamation of Romney Marsh had accentuated the silting up of the Rother above Rye, it was still possible in 1486 for a 600-ton ship (comparable in size to the Mary Rose) to be "begun" at Reading, a riverside hamlet on the seaward side of Smallhythe. We have in the Tenterden Museum a list of about 20 ships built at Smallhythe between 1342 and 1545.

Tenterden's claim to participation in the coming celebrations, however, would have to be based on its sharing the cost of hiring and fitting out at the Queen's command the William, of Rye, a ship of 80 tons, in May, 1588, and providing 24 men and four horses for land defence.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH V. ROBERTS,
Honorary Curator,
Tenterden & District Museum Association,
The Museum, Station Road,
Tenterden, Kent.
February 4.

Moral shortcomings

From Mrs N. Warrington

Sir, Mr Hurd (report, February 6) blames the parents, teachers and the Church for the lack of discipline amongst young children today. He has conveniently forgotten that different governments have taken away the authority of police, teachers and even parents.

As far as morals are concerned, this Government has made divorce easy so that couples have no need to try to overcome difficulties as in the past. It has also made it financially more profitable to live together without marriage, so we have a great number of illegitimate children without roots in a stable family. Promiscuity is acceptable in society, so children naturally follow the trend.

We also have the Government trying to do away with the one day in the week when the family can all meet together. Sunday trading and racing – and Mr Hurd talks of wanting to encourage family life. What hypocrisy!

Let the Government give a lead in making family life possible and worth while.

Yours sincerely,
N. WARRINGTON,
Primrose Cottage, Chapel Lane,
Kniveton,
Nr Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

Role of the Monarch

From Mr C. H. R. Bailey

Sir, While agreeing with much of Clifford Longley's article (February 1), his suggestion that the disestablishment of the Church of England might unsettle the constitutional position of the Monarch is hard to accept.

The Monarch is not only Queen of England and Scotland, which have established churches; she is also Queen of Wales, Northern Ireland, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, which have no established Church and yet seem to cope quite well with their constitutional positions.

I have deep respect for the Church of England, but as a non-Anglican Englishman, I do not accept its claim to be my church, nor do I see my relationship with the Monarch determined by the fiction that I am, in some way, a member of that Church.

It is often argued by opponents of disestablishment that without an established Church, England would somehow be less Christian. It is questionable that the countries listed above are less Christian than England.

If England wants to be acknowledged as a Christian country it must be because its laws are just and its lifestyle virtuous and not because a law says it is Christian.

Yours etc,
C. H. R. BAILEY,
Stonehurst, Killiney Hill Road,
Killiney, Co. Dublin,
Republic of Ireland.
February 3.

In other words

From Professor R. V. Jones, FRS

Sir, The current *Newsletter* of the University of Aberdeen, circulated by the principal to all members of staff and therefore presumably in the public domain, includes a copy of a letter sent to him on December 11, 1987, by the Chairman of the University Grants Committee, giving the committee's views on the university's plans for a phased reduction in staff. The letter's third paragraph runs:

The committee is prepared to support only 5 of the 7 proposed early retirements in mathematics. The reason for this is that it is concerned that the loss of as many as 7 staff through early retirement would produce an unreasonably high staff:student ratio.

A Nobel prizewinner has said that the easiest slips to make in a calculation are a factor of two and a wrong sign. Observing that the UGC's chairman is a professor of mathematics and a Fellow of the Royal Society, we should perhaps add to the list of easy errors the possibility of getting a ratio the wrong way up.

If the UGC can err in such a simple matter, can we be sure that other aspects of its planning are not similarly inverted?

Yours faithfully,
R. V. JONES,
8 Queen's Terrace, Aberdeen.

Rhyme and reason

From Mr P. R. Layton

Sir, Mr Alan Coren's reference in *The Times* Diary (February 10) to the erotic appeal of the memorial to Sir Arthur Sullivan in the Victoria Embankment Gardens recalls the charmingly ambiguous tribute it received on its first appearance:

Why, O nymph, O why display
Your beauty in such disarray?
Is it decent, is it just
To so conventional a bust!

Yours etc,
P. R. LAYTON,
Rocks Forge, Main Road,
Knockholt, Sevenoaks, Kent.
February 10.

Objections to lifting mail monopoly

From the General Secretary of the Union of Communication Workers

Sir, People living outside large cities should be especially alarmed about your report (February 11) that the Government may be about to lift the letter monopoly.

If private companies are allowed to compete for the profitable inter-city traffic, this will leave the Post Office with the duty to serve the rest of the country with one hand tied behind its back.

As the union which represents the vast majority of Post Office workers, we would be the first to agree that current standards of service are inadequate. The enormous growth in letter traffic (up by 25 per cent between 1982 and 1987 and still rising at about 6.5 per cent this year) has placed a great strain on the business and much still has to be done to improve quality of service, including over weekends.

This could be done if management would agree to fund the improvements rather than being obsessed with cost-cutting. Customers should also know that a substantial amount of their money is creamed off each year by the Government through the PO's requirement to make external financing limit (EFL) payments. This coming year the EFL amount is £97 million and for the last 10 years EFL payments have totalled £389 million. Rather than contributing to already buoyant Government coffers, the customer should expect the better, more modern services that these funds, properly invested, could have produced.

Those who call for the monopoly to be lifted on a permanent basis seem unaware that the British Post Office is the envy of the world.

At present inter-city traffic subsidises letters to and from smaller towns, villages and outlying areas. It is estimated that the urban-to-rural cross subsidy is around £130 million (six per cent of the total Royal Mail turnover). If the letters business were to be deprived of its monopoly, there is no doubt that the universal stamp would have to go and letters to people living outside cities would cost perhaps three or four times as much.

The average cost of a letter sent to or from a rural area could be 75p. Moreover, competitive pressures could force the abandonment of door-to-door delivery in all areas and the introduction of collection boxes in the village or small town high street.

For the letter monopoly to be lifted would see rural and suburban postal services go the way of rail and bus services in these areas: fewer and fewer and finally their extinction.

There is a much more positive alternative: free the Post Office from the Treasury stranglehold and allow it to reinvest to improve the weekday service and respond to public interest in weekend services.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN TUFFIN,
General Secretary,
Union of Communication Workers,
U. C. W. House, Crescent Lane,
Clapham Common, SW4.

Academic tenure

From Dr Anthony D. Smith

Sir, Earl Russell (February 8) is right. But what university teachers most deplore is the denial of any form of academic tenure to newcomers to the profession and its removal from all who are promoted within their own university or who move to another. This is likely to foster academic inefficiency and stagnation, discourage innovation, curtail student choice of courses and distort research. Many valuable specialisms will be abolished and traditions of scholarship built up over generations will be destroyed.

By undermining university autonomy and its freedoms of learning and teaching which tenure upholds, the Education Reform Bill will greatly accelerate the flow of our best teachers overseas and cause a rapid decline in the standards of excellence for which British universities are renowned.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY D. SMITH,
The London School of Economics and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2.
February 8.

Ford dispute

From Lord Aberconway

Sir, It may be helpful for one who has no involvement in the Ford dispute to point out that the management, even if it had not already improved more than once upon a "final offer", could not now in any way contemplate improving upon the deal agreed with the employees' representatives.

Thereby, obviously, it would so undermine the standing of the union negotiators as to destroy any prospects that such agreements reached in future would be accepted on the shop floor.

So what can the strikers hope to gain?

Yours faithfully,
ABERCONWAY,
40 Lowndes Street, SW1.
February 9.

Long-distance call

From Mr John Wade

Sir, With regard to Mr Hadfield's letter (February 10), our old red telephone boxes are valued outside this country. Anyone visiting the pleasant city of Koblenz can see such a box in a shopping centre. Furthermore, it is in working order, which is probably more than could be said for it when it was here.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WADE,
Savage Club,
9 Fitzmaurice Place,
Berkeley Square, W1.
February 10.

Far-flung frogs

From Mr Bernard Kaukas

Sir, Your news item (February 8) concerning the pink frogs hopping about the streets of Cirencester last summer after a storm attributes the phenomenon to the fact (?) that they "flew in" from the Sahara desert.

"Freak winds" have long been the excuse for downpours of extraneous matter deposited in all parts of the globe. This time pink frogs actually landed and we are asked to believe that these plucky little creatures, flying in a straight-line projection from the desert at, say, 60 mph (they had, as far as one knows, no goggles), were airborne for at least 20 hours without benefit of stewardesses or alcoholic refreshment.

Furthermore, it seems, they floated gently down from, say, 10,000ft and landed unscathed. As far as I am aware no parachutes were found, but perhaps these canny little devils buried them in the pink sand which arrived with them.

Yours incredulously,
BERNARD KAUKAS,
13 Lynwood Road, Ealing, W5.
February 8.

ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 13 1798

In the last few years of the 18th century the threat of a French invasion was ever present. The American adventurer, Colonel Tate, led an unsuccessful foray in Wales in February, 1797 ("On This Day" February 28, 1985; February 27, 1987). Of the ambitious plan described below nothing subsequently appeared in the paper. The signatory of the "instructions", Lazare Hoche, the distinguished French general, had died in September, 1797

INSTRUCTIONS *for* COLONEL TATE.

There will be placed under the command of Colonel TATE a body of troops, completely organized, to the number of *One Thousand and Fifty*, all resolute and determined men, with whom he may undertake any thing. They are to be called *"La Seconde Légion des Francs."*

The destruction of *Bristol* is of the very last [*sic*] importance, and every possible effort should be made to accomplish it. . .

The expedition under the command of Colonel TATE has in view three principal objects; the *first* is, if possible to raise an insurrection in the country; – the *second* is, to intercept and embarrass the commerce of the enemy; – and the *third* is, to prepare and facilitate the way for a descent, by distracting the attention of the English Government.

In all countries, the Poor are the class most prone to insurrection; and this disposition is to be forwarded by distributing money and drink, by inveighing against the Government, as the cause of the public distress; by recommending and facilitating a rising, to plunder the public stores and magazines, and the property of the rich, whose affluence is the natural subject of envy to the poor.

It is, notwithstanding, to be observed, that however defective may be the morality of the English people, they have still respect for the Laws and their Magistrates, even in the moment of insurrection; it will therefore be adviseable to spare, as much as possible, the property of those who may be in any civil function, and even of the country Gentlemen: and all impositions should be laid on the Peers, the Men of Rank and high Fortune, the Clergy, those who serve as Officers in the Army, Navy and especially in the Militia; of all such, the country seats, farms, woods, cattle and corn, should be given up to be plundered by the people. These predatory excursions should be made in different, and even distant quarters, by detachments of two or three hundred men each.

The commerce of the enemy in the country is to be interrupted by breaking down bridges, cutting dykes, and ruining causeways; which is, at the same time, essentially necessary for the preservation of the army; – by plundering all convoys of subsistence, the public stages and waggons, and even private carriages; – the cutting off the supplies of provisions from the principal towns, burning all vessels and boats on the rivers and canals, destroying magazines, setting fire to docks and coal-yards, rope-walks, great manufactories, &c. &c. It is to be observed likewise, that by these means a crowd of artisans will be thrown out of employment and, of course, ready to embark in any measure which holds out to them subsistence and plunder, without labour or fatigue . . .

(Signed) L. HOCHE.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 12: The Queen this afternoon visited the Wildfowl Trust Centre at Slimbridge.

Having been received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Gloucestershire (Colonel Martin Gibbs), The Queen, escorted by the Hon Director (Sir Peter Scott) and the Director General (Dr Brian Bertram) of the Wildfowl Trust, viewed the wildfowl and unveiled a commemorative plaque at the new Yuen-Peng McNeice Swan Observatory.

Mrs Robert de Pass, the Right Hon Sir William Heseltine and Lieutenant-Commander Timothy Laurence, RN were in attendance.

The Duke and Duchess of York arrived at Liverpool Lime Street Station in the Royal Train this morning and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Merseyside (Wing Commander Kenneth Stoddart).

Their Royal Highnesses visited the Merchant Taylors' School for Girls (Headmistress, Mrs Margaret Davies) in its Centenary Year and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Afterwards the Duke and Duchess of York opened Carr-Gomm (Merseyside) Limited House and were received by the Founder (Mr Richard Carr-Gomm).

Their Royal Highnesses subsequently visited Everton Park Sports Centre (Manager, Mrs Louise Gray) and were later entertained at luncheon by the Chairman, Liverpool City Council (Councillor Thomas McManus) at the Town Hall.

The Duke and Duchess of York, attended by Miss Helen Hughes and Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer, left Liverpool Airport in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Princess Royal, President of the British Olympic Association, left Heathrow Airport, London this afternoon for Canada where Her Royal Highness will attend the XV Olympic Winter Games in Calgary, Alberta.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 12: The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, today received Lieutenant Colonel R. M. Wilde on assuming command of the 1st Battalion, and Lieutenant Colonel D. A. K. Biggart on relinquishing the appointment.

The Crown Prince of Liechtenstein celebrates his birthday today.

David Hopkinson

Synod as a debilitating influence

In a letter to *The Times* on January 4, I suggested that at the end of the February meeting of the General Synod of the Church of England, the Archbishop of Canterbury should advise the Queen to dissolve it until November 1990, when the next elections are due. The obvious question then arises: why not abolish it altogether?

The general synod has continuing legislative responsibilities; in addition it was hoped when it was inaugurated in 1970 that by joining together bishops, clergy and laity in one body it would play an important role in the mission of the church.

The next two and a half years could usefully be spent, not only considering penitentially where it has gone wrong, but also rediscovering that loving God comes before loving one's neighbour. This implies a reversion to reverence and holiness, through worship, prayer, teaching and preaching the faith.

At present the bishops flit incessantly from committee to committee achieving nothing much except a diversion of time and energy from their primary work and the pastoral care of their dioceses, clergy and parishes. The clergy do likewise with an uncomfortable suggestion that preferment comes more readily to those who appear to be busy on central or diocesan bodies.

The laity, many of whom are retired, try to emulate the House of Commons by taking up and pontificating on trendy subjects such as sex, *Crockford's*, poll tax and sexism in biblical language.

A sense of proportion is not the general synod's strongest suit and all three houses seem to suffer from the heresies that busyness is synonomous with commitment, and that more knowledge leads to deeper faith.

The central boards and committees as well as the general synod are going to cost in 1989 about £5 million to administer, and although this is a small proportion of the total annual income of the church, it is a diversion of resources from spiritual and missionary work that could be done at home and overseas.

It is also counter-productive at the time of the appeal for the Church Urban Fund; anyone concerned with raising money in dioceses and parishes knows that central expenditure of any kind is a disincentive to giving.

General synod expenditure is virtually impossible to control because there is no cabinet government and the 550 members, being well-intentioned, have boundless ambitions to do good by talking in committees at home and overseas. They are great marginal-costers and in business that is the rosy path to bankruptcy both spiritually and financially.

Finance is, however, secondary to the damage that the general synod does by trying to centralize decision-making and power in the church. The unit of government of the Church of England both theologically and administratively is the diocese and its bishop; it is not the province or the Church of England as a whole.

Diversity is a strength and not a weakness. The wise diocese in turn never ceases to try to devolve responsibility and activity to parishes. The synod, virtually alone of large organizations, in company with British Rail, is trying to do the reverse by centralizing power and debate.

One of the reasons perhaps for the unpopularity of the Church Commissioners with the synod is that the commissioners in recent years (with the exception of the Central Stipends Authority) have tried commendably to leave more discretion to dioceses and have relinquished some of their central power.

The debilitating influence of the general synod is perhaps best evidenced in the weight of paper it produces. This cornucopia of indigestible verbosity, besides adding to the present problems of the Post Office, saps personal commitment. Indeed, who has time to read it all unless he or she is a professional synodsman?

There is so much paper that when there is something really worthwhile it gets lost in the maelstrom. Often a report seems to be written because it is the turn of a particular committee to produce something and there is a vacant slot in the timetable of the synod. There is nothing as dangerous as a body with undefined ambitions desperately searching for a job to do.

Parishes and dioceses find the activity, the posturing and the politicising of the general synod irrelevant to their work, their worship and their commitment to God. The general synod lacks joy and enthusiasm; it plays to the media, and certain leading commentators have responded in recent months by suggesting that it is a pretentious anachronism and that Dr Gareth Bennett talked good sense in his shrewd and justified criticisms on pages 69-72 of the *Crockford's* preface.

The synod manages to give the impression that the Church of England is in a muddle and in decline.

In my experience this is not so; ordination candidacy is better here than elsewhere in Western Europe, people offer themselves to bodies like the Church Army and CMS in increasing numbers; baptisms, confirmations and electoral rolls in my own diocese are encouraging; cathedrals are thronged; ecumenism since Swanwick has made a huge advance, and the charitable giving of rich and poor alike never fails to amaze me, as long as it is not for central church bodies.

Many people are waiting to respond to spiritual leadership. What is the general synod doing next week? Debating *Crockford's*.

It is not the purpose of this article to discuss what changes should be made. It is for others to consider how often the synod should meet, how its quagmire of quangos should be limited, how its membership should be more representative of parish and diocesan life, how its numbers should be reduced and how its actual duties should be redefined.

Such a review cannot be conducted by the synod itself as there are too many vested interests, both political and personal.

The two-year sabbatical is needed for this regeneration. In the meantime, the essential administration of the church could be left to the Church Commissioners and the Central Board of Finance, while the members themselves could perhaps usefully contemplate the monosyllabic admonition of the psalmist: "Be still then and know that I am God".

The writer is a member of the general synod, church commissioner, chairman of the Chichester Diocesan Board of Finance and chairman of the Church Army.

Cardinal's castle a holiday home

Cawood Castle, near Selby, North Yorkshire, once the home of Cardinal Wolsey, has been bought by the Landmark Trust, a charity which specializes in restoring neglected historic buildings.

The fourteenth century, richly decorated gatehouse had been turned into a holiday home, with a large chamber and bedroom reached by a narrow, spiral staircase.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S.P. Blagden and Miss S. Heaney
The engagement is announced between Simon Paul, second son of Mr Michael Patrick Blagden and the late Mrs Maureen Blagden, of Slayleigh Drive, Sheffield, and Susan, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Heaney, of Holmbridge, Huddersfield.

Mr J.W. Bloomfield and Miss D.M. Bell-King
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs J.E. Bloomfield, of Brockenhurst, Hampshire, and Denise, daughter of Mr and Mrs G.T. Bell-King, of Blackheath, London.

Dr J.D. Churcher and Miss H.A. Ashcroft
The engagement is announced between Julian, elder son of Dr and Mrs M.D. Churcher, of Yealmpton, Devon, and Holly, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs A.J. Ashcroft, of Ottawa, Canada.

Captain T.D.J. Edge and Miss L.C. Bate
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs D.F. Edge, of Laugharne, Dyfed, and Louise, younger daughter of the late Major General A.C. Bate and of Mrs Bate, of Shroton, Blandford, Dorset.

Mr N.J. Eldred and Miss C.M. Arthure
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Mr and Mrs R.D. Eldred, of St Albans, and Caroline, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs J.E. Arthure, of Bembridge, Isle of Wight.

Mr M.J. Elsom and Miss M.A. King
The engagement is announced between Michael John, only son of Mr S. Elsom, of Hockley, Essex, and Mrs J.F. Elsom, of Dagenham, Essex, and Mandy Ann, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. King, of Dagenham, Essex.

Mr A.N.L. Goodchild and Miss F. Bond
The engagement is announced between Adrian, twin son of Mr and Mrs Raymond Goodchild, of Pitminster, Somerset, and Fiona, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Colin Bond, of Blackawton, Devon.

Dr M.J. Griffith and Dr U. Oetiker
The engagement is announced between Michael John, younger son of Mr and Mrs O.G. Griffith, of Gerrards Cross, and Ursula, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Oetiker, of Männedorf and Poole.

Mr J. Hamp and Miss K.S. Pease-Watkin
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs D. Hamp, of Norton St Philip, Avon, and Kate, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J.F.H. Pease-Watkin, of Much Hadham, Hertfordshire.

Dr J.M. Harrison and Miss L.A. Walker
The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mr and Mrs G. Harrison, of Bramhall, Stockport, and Linda Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.A. Walker, of Whitton, Twickenham.

Mr J.D.M. James and Miss G.R. Desborough
The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J.R.H. James, of Rampart House, Kinsale, Co Cork, and Gillian Rose, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Desborough, of Northampton.

Mr D.L. Murray and Miss L.E.L. Craig
The engagement is announced between Duncan, only son of the late Mr and Mrs J.D. Murray, formerly of Beechill Gardens, Aberdeen, and Ianthe Elizabeth, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs H.J.L. Craig, of Ravenhill Road, Belfast.

Mr H.M.T. Nally and Miss J.S. Ryley
The engagement is announced between Herbert, son of the late Mr F.L. Nally and of Mrs Nally, of Great Barr, Birmingham, and Joanne Sara, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Ryley, of of Brentwood, Essex.

Mr J.H.S. Parkinson and Miss C.R. Marx
The engagement is announced between John Harold Saul, younger son of Mr and Mrs H.A.S. Parkinson, of Co Durham, and Caroline Renée, daughter of Dr and Mrs F.G. Marx, of South Kensington, London.

Mr C.I. Porter and Miss E.A. Croft
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs Ian S. Porter, of Hudroyd House, Barnsley, and Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.G. Croft, of Great Shelford, Cambridge.

Mr D.C. Ruthven-Murray and Miss A-M. Large
The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mr and Mrs P.L. Ruthven-Murray, of Mill Hill, London, and Anne-Marie, eldest daughter of Mrs M. Large, of Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

Mr T.J. Watkins and Miss S.E. Christey
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs Nowell St J. Watkins, of Higham, Suffolk, and Sarah, elder daughter of Squadron Leader and Mrs John Christey, of Dedham, Essex.

Marriage

Mr W. Wallace and Miss J. Hunt
The marriage took place on February 12, at St Mary the Virgin, Hambleden, between Mr Wynward Wallace and Miss Julia Hunt.

Personal and social announcements, church news and services, page 35.



Richard Harris slips into Maigret's shoes

Georges Simenon's famous detective, Maigret, finds a new face for television as Richard Harris (above) starts work on a new series for HTV (West).

Rupert Davies's portrayal of the detective (right) in the 1960s made the series one of the most successful ever.

The new two-hour thriller is being shot on location in Britain and France and aboard the liner, Black Prince, during a two-week cruise of the Canary Islands and Morocco.

(Main photograph: Harry Kerr).



French honour



Mr Anthony Smith, Director of the British Film Institute, has been appointed a Chevalier d'Honneur by the French Government for his work in promoting French film-makers at the National Film Theatre.

Royal Society of Arts

Dr David Franklyn Allen, Chairman of the National Drug Council of the Bahamas, has been awarded the Royal Society of Arts's R. B. Bennett Commonwealth Prize for 1987 for his contribution in the field of drug addiction, with particular reference to the misuse of cocaine.

Birthdays

TODAY: Lieutenant-General Sir Roger Bower, 85; Professor Derek Burke, vice-chancellor, University of East Anglia, 58; Earl Cadogan, 74; Dr J.P. Clayton, former Apothecary to HM Household at Windsor, 67; Miss M.E. Collins, former matron-in-chief, QARNNS, 61; Mr Ted Croker, secretary and chief executive, Football Association, 64; Dr D.G. Hessayon, horticultural and agricultural author, 60; Professor Sir Jack Lewis, chemist, 60; Lord Manners, 65; Miss Kim Novak, actress, 55; Lord Peyton of Yeovil, 69; Lord Pym, 66; Mr Oliver Reed, actor, 50; Miss Margaretta Scott, actress, 76; Mr George Segal, actor, 55; M Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber, author and politician, 64; M Georges Simenon, novelist, 85; Dr Donald Sykes, former principal, Mansfield College, Oxford, 58.

TOMORROW: The Right Rev Peter Ball, Bishop of Lewes, and his twin brother, the Right Rev Michael Ball, Bishop of Jarrow, 56; Sir John Clark, chairman, The Plessey Company, 62; Sir Arnold Elton, consultant surgeon, 68; Lieutenant-Colonel M. St J. V. Gibbs, Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, 71; Sir Derrick Holden-Brown, chairman, Allied-Lyons, 65; Mr Kevin Keegan, footballer, 37; Mr John MacGregor, MP, 51; Mr William Mann, author and broadcaster, 64; Countess Mountbatten of Burma, 64; Professor Sir Charles Oatley, electrical engineer, 84; the Hon Hanning Philipps, former Lord Lieutenant of Dyfed, 84; Professor R.J.V. Pulvertaft, clinical pathologist, 91; Mr Michael Rudman, theatre director and producer, 49; Sir Albert Sloman, former vice-chancellor, Essex University, 67; Mr Jocelyn Stevens, rector, Royal College of Art, 56; Mr D.M. Stewart, principal, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, 58; Sir David Wilson, Governor of Hong Kong, 53.

Memorial service

Lieutenant-General Sir Denis O'Connor
The Commandant of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, was represented by Major R.M. Thornely at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Lieutenant-General Sir Denis O'Connor held yesterday in the Royal Memorial Chapel, Sandhurst. Colonel the Rev Peter Clement officiated. Colonel Neill O'Connor, brother, read the lesson and Brigadier Malcolm O'Connor, brother, read *Remember* by Christina Rossetti. The Ven Peter Mallett gave an address.

Dinners

HM Government
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Scotland, was host last night at a dinner held at 6 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, for chief constables of Scottish police forces.

Institute of Public Relations
Mr Tom Cox, MP, sponsored a dinner in the House of Commons yesterday to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the Institute of Public Relations. Mr Tony Spalding, president, was in the chair.

OBITUARY

KURT ADLER

Patron of young operatic talent



Kurt Herbert Adler, opera conductor and administrator, died on February 9. He was 82. He was known mainly for his work as general director of the San Francisco Opera, a post he held for more than 25 years until 1981.

Adler was born in Vienna on April 2, 1905. He was educated at the Vienna Music Academy and made his début in that city as a conductor in 1925 at the Max Reinhardt Theatre. He assisted Toscanini at the Salzburg Festival in 1936, then was forced to emigrate to the United States in 1938.

He first worked in Chicago, but in 1943 he became chorus master of the San Francisco Opera. He soon became one of the company's principal conductors, then assistant to the general director, Merola. He was appointed artistic director of the company in 1953, and general director three years later.

He immediately revitalized its work, placing greater emphasis on dramatic truth, and rather less on star singers. Indeed, he was eager to engage as many new artists as possible.

Among these were many British singers, not least Geraint Evans and Richard Lewis, who in turn recommended to Adler a number from a younger generation, among them the youthful Margaret Price. Thus a tradition grew up of British singers appearing in the house and this continued throughout Adler's régime.

He was also anxious, as far as the public would accept them, to introduce new works to the company's repertory.

As an administrator he was always adept at coping with the whims of the stars. As a conductor, his interpretations were, perhaps, more notable for their steadiness and sincerity than for their excitement. He was always sympathetic to his singers, several of whom owed their development as artists to his careful nurture.

He was fully equipped to deal with the rough-and-tumble of operatic life in America, and eventually became something of a grand old man of the opera scene there. He continued to conduct performances until quite recently, some of them at the Metropolitan, in New York.

He leaves his widow, Nancy, and four children.

RUTH VAN RUYCKEVELT

Ruth Van Ruyckevelt, ceramic modeller, whose limited editions of costumed young ladies caught the fancy of collectors, died on February 1. She was 54.

Of mixed Polish and Huguenot parentage, she was educated at Wimbledon School of Art, where at 14 she was the youngest ever student. Her mastery of Victorian and Edwardian costume, which provided much of the charm of her work, was acquired by intensive study at the Victoria & Albert Museum.

In 1955 she began work for the Worcester Royal Porcelain Company, where the first editions of her young ladies were issued in 1959 and 1960. They now change hands at many times their original cost.

The most famous of her models for Worcester was "The Tea Party", depicting two ladies and a girl with her dog at a tea table; the girl was her own daughter. An example of this edition is now held in the V & A. Later models for Worcester included nursing sisters, in meticulously modelled uniform.

She was for a time also chief designer for Dent, Allcroft and Co., the ancient Worcester glovers, working with Dior of Paris on glove design. And she was on the staff of the Malvern College of Art and Malvern Girls' College.

She was also an accomplished modeller for bronze, producing the heads of Sir Edward Elgar and Lord Mountbatten. One of the Elgar heads was bought by the Prince of Wales.

Her last year was spent in developing a new business with her son, to supply models for the American market.

SIR CHARLES MOSES

Sir Charles Moses, the larger-than-life character who ran the Australian Broadcasting Commission for 30 years, has died in Sydney, aged 88.

He was sometimes called Australia's John Reith. There was the same authoritarianism. He also had strong views on the educational role of broadcasting. One of his legacies was ABC's contribution as a patron of music. He himself helped to launch the Sydney Opera House; and he initiated schools broadcasts.

Charles Joseph Alfred Moses was born in England, where he was educated at Oswestry Grammar School and Sandhurst. But he left the Army — where he had been a champion boxer — to seek his fortune in Australia.

After various false starts he found that his biggest asset was his voice, the kind of English voice which struck Australians of the time as distinguished but not patronizing. His immense physical vigour — he was given to tearing up telephone directories — also went down well with Australians.

He proved a success as a radio commentator in the pioneering days of sports reporting, moved into general news, and was only in his mid-thirties when he became ABC's chief executive.

His career was interrupted by the war, during which he rose to be a lieutenant-colonel.

After the war he created Australia's national television service, in time for the Melbourne Olympics of 1956, when he established himself as a figure on the world media scene as host to visiting broadcasting teams.

On retiring, he helped to create the Asian Broadcasting Union.

M RENÉ MASSIGLI

S writes:
A footnote to your excellent obituary (February 4) of René Massigli.

I first met him at the League of Nations, in 1934. In those days, the French were mainly instrumental in organizing League affairs, and Massigli was the mainspring of their delegation, moving with lightning efficiency to get the business done, usually in the French interest.

Later, in Algiers, in 1944, he again was, with Jean Monnet, the mainspring of the newly-formed French National Committee. He acted as a friendly buffer between General de Gaulle and the rest of us, though on one occasion, during a frosty interview, he could scarcely have averted an explosion but for a timely fusing of the lights, which gave him time to calm things down.

His services to Anglo-French friendship were inestimable. The most charming of men and a delightful companion, his fault, if he had one, was to speak so rapidly, both in French and in English, that he was sometimes equally incomprensible, even to the sharpest of ears, in both languages.

Sir Robin Hooper writes:
René Massigli's flight to England in January, 1943, was not without incident.

When the pilot (Wing Commander Percy Pickard, of *Target for Tonight*) arrived at the field where Massigli was waiting, the ground operator, misunderstanding his instructions, failed to switch on the three pocket torches which served as a flare path, and Pickard had to circle the field for nearly two hours before he could land.

On the way home, the aircraft's compass failed, and a flight which should have ended at Tangmere, in Sussex, fetched up — with bone-dry tanks — at Predannack, in Cornwall. For Ambassadors-designate, there have been more orthodox arrivals.

Some months later, Pickard — by then a group captain — was killed in the "Jericho" raid on Amiens prison, which freed a number of captive French *résistants*. It was typical of René Massigli that he commemorated his rescuer's skill and persistence in the (to Pickard's old comrades) deeply moving letter which appeared in the columns of *The Times* on November 2, 1944.

SIR JOHN GUTCH

Sir John Gutch, KCMG, OBE, a distinguished colonial administrator, died on February 11. He was 82.

He was born on July 12, 1905, son of a don at King's College, Cambridge. From Cains College, Cambridge, he entered the Colonial Administrative Service, in 1928, as an assistant district commissioner in the Gold Coast.

He transferred to Palestine as an assistant secretary in 1936, remaining until 1947. He survived the King David Hotel explosion, although many of his close friends were killed.

He was appointed Chief Secretary, British Guiana, in 1950. With the role also of acting governor, he helped to guide the country through a politically troubled period when British troops were withdrawn and progress towards independence was temporarily halted.

In 1955, Gutch was appointed High Commissioner for the Western Pacific. The islands under his jurisdiction were the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, the British side of the New Hebrides condominium, and the Southern Line Islands.

During his tenure, significant constitutional headway was made. It was a rewarding and happy time for him.

He retired from the service in 1961, and worked for British Electric Traction until 1969. He was on the committee of management of the Institute of Ophthalmology, of which he was made a Fellow. For many years he served the London Committee of the Melanesian Mission.

He published three books, of which the latest was his autobiography, *Colonial Servant*, published last year. An earlier work, *Martyr of the Islands* (1971), devoted itself to a man of outstanding physical courage, John Coleridge Patteson, first Bishop of Melanesia, who was clubbed to death in 1871.

Gutch was a skilled administrator. He was a modest man, calm and persevering, who made friends easily.

His wife, Diana, whom he married in 1938, survives him with their three sons.

MISS ANNE ROPER

Miss Anne Roper, MBE, who died on February 7, at the age of 84, was an authority on Kentish history, especially on Romney Marsh.

She went to the county to recuperate after an accident received playing hockey for University College, Cardiff, which put an end to her studies there. It was sorting through the New Romney archives during her convalescence that nurtured her interest in the region's past.

During the Second World War she was a welfare officer for troops stationed in the Marsh and also for the Women's Land Army — services for which she was awarded the MBE, in 1944.

She was active, too, in church affairs as a member of the House of Laity in the old Church Assembly, and as churchwarden of St Mary-in-the-Marsh for half-a-century. Further afield, she was a delegate to the first World Council of Churches meeting in Amsterdam, in 1948.

She was a founder member of the Friends of Kent Churches, and published many useful church guides. In 1984 she received a Lambeth MA, and in that year published *Romney Marsh: The Gift of the Sea*.

Earlier, in 1979, she had become the first woman president of the Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men and Fair Maids. She was Lord of the Manor of Eastbridge.

She never married. To many, she was the epitome of a favourite aunt.

PROF ARTHUR RAMSAY

K. W. S. writes:
Arthur Ramsay (obituary, February 6) will be remembered with warm affection by fellow members of the Cambridge University Mountaineering Club in the years 1931-1935 when he took part in a number of club skiing and winter climbing meets in the Cairngorms, Glencoe and Ben Nevis and he showed himself to be a fine and determined mountaineer.

He was a man of quiet but great charm and informality, the jacket at Cambridge often secured by a safety pin for lack of a button.

He was also a skilled bagpiper, and gave lessons in his college rooms to would-be pipers in return for a measure of whisky as his reward for the service.

His laboratory activity at that time included, for reasons obscure to us, the desiccation of cockroaches — in retrospect, this must have been an early stage of his seminal work on transpiration through insect cuticles, to which reference was made in the obituary notice.

Mr William George Syer, CVO, CBE, who died on February 7, at the age of 74, spent much of his life in police forces overseas.

He joined the Colonial Police Service in 1933 and served in Gibraltar (1933-5), Jamaica (1935-40), and in Nigeria from 1940 to 1951, when he became Commissioner of Police, Sierra Leone. He retired in 1962, but in 1964 he resumed police duties as Commissioner of Police, Swaziland (1964-8).

While in Sierra Leone, Syer was also commissioner of the St John Ambulance Brigade. Walking and birdwatching were among his recreations.

He married, in 1948, Marjorie Pike. There were no children.

هكذا من الأصل

February 13-19 1988

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Just a bloomin' traditional bunch

On the eve of St Valentine's Day, David Leitch meets some pavement flower sellers and finds out how life is changing on the streets of London

JOHN ROGERS



Jean Barwick, one of London's many traditional street flower sellers, at her stall outside the Queen's Elm pub in the Fulham Road, Chelsea. In Valentine's week her display includes:

1. Chrysanthemums in various colours; £4.50 for five. Most of *her flowers come from Holland. Israel is another important source* of winter flowers. Several South American countries now also supply Britain.
2. Deep pink and red roses; £12 per bunch of 12.
3. Yellow enchantment lilies; £7.50 for five. From Israel.
4. Red spray carnations; £4.50 per bunch of 10.
5. White spray carnations; £4.50 per bunch of 10.
6. Blue irises; £3.10 per bunch of 10. From Israel.
7. Assorted Dutch spray carnations; £4.50 per bunch of 10.
8. Cream roses from Israel; £12 per bunch of 20.
9. *Tangerine spray carnations; £4.50 per bunch of 10.*
10. Yellow freesias; £2 per bunch of five. From Holland.
11. Yellow and tangerine spray carnations; £4.50 per bunch.
12. Garnet roses; £6 per bunch of 20.
13. Assorted tulips; £5 per bunch of 10.
14. Dutch daffodils; £2 per bunch of 10.
15. Assorted roses; £8 for a bunch of 20. From Holland.
16. White Dutch tulips; £6 for 10.
17. Mimosa; £3 per bunch, also from Holland.
18. Jean is holding orange chrysanthemums at £4.50 a bunch. She throws away any unsold flowers before they deteriorate, but she says she doesn't have to do that often because she has been in the business for 40 years and can estimate the demand *pretty precisely. As all the flowers are imported, prices are high* at this time of year; but they will fall as summer draws on and British flowers come on the market.

By the time Britain has finished celebrating St Valentine's Day tomorrow, we will have spent more than £7.5 million on flowers. It is a statistic which ought to please 70-year-old James Evans, the head of a family of street flower costers going back to the last century. Evans, however, is not impressed, since most of the money will go to the supermarkets and Interflora. "Valentine's Day is only modern, same as Motherin' Sunday," he says in the kind of Shavian cockney almost never heard outside the theatre. "Nowadays anyone can sell flowers in Cellophane – outside garages, anywhere they like."

The Evans family are part of a tradition which was once a feature of our urban landscape. James, from Harrow, started with a horse and cart and has recently ceded the family pitch outside Harrow-on-the-Hill station to his son Paul, a 42-year-old who is, in turn, "training up" his own son, Danny.

James, who quit only because of arthritis in his hands, possesses a photo of his own father, George, who worked around Windsor between the wars. George would never miss Ascot and in the photograph is seen in full coster's outfit outside Windsor Castle with his wicker hamper prominent.

James refers blithely to "the old traditions wot the majority likes," says "*noos*" for news, and "Crors" when he reminisces about the problems of boarding trains at Charing Cross station when taking "'ampers" home to what was still Middlesex.

"People lived different in them days," he says, recalling that, as a child, he slept in "a two bob daff box" instead of a cot. It might even have been modestly comfortable because "the flowers come from France then in hand-made boxes called 'canes'.

"The porters wore mittens for openin' 'em – the flowers was pressed flat. People thought they was dead when they saw 'em, if you know what I mean. But when they'd bin in my shed overnight the aroma was like paradise, out of this world."

Like the rest of London's flower sellers, the Evanses used to buy their wares from the Covent Garden market. Nowadays the blooms come from the New Covent Garden at Nine Elms, south of the river. The place has all the charm of a very big supermarket near a motorway intersection.

The flowers are in such uniform and packaged profusion that they are not even particularly attractive. It is easy to understand the influence the mass retailers like Marks & Spencer and Tesco are having on business, buying boxes by the hundred, invariably by phone. It does not even smell of flowers, simply cool and damp, because the aisles are air-conditioned to a mean temperature of 58 degrees.

Despite such futuristic developments, if you hang around Nine Elms it is possible to make contact with a few families who still stick to the old ways and make a living. James Evans recalls skills which involved "bunching" and dyeing (called "dipping") as well as keeping up the paraffin lamp he had over his stall.

"You had to know how to bid and how to bunch up: you made yer bunches with a pennorth of wire, and bass – that's raffia for tying – that we used to buy off a stout Jewish gentleman called Markie the Yid. He sold wrapping paper and it 'ad to be pink or white. Two bob a ream.

"We used to go to a coffee stall with a bit of old canvas on it run by Ginger and Arnold in front of the French Market. There was a lot of tramps who kipped on the railings behind the big hotel kitchens. They never give them a cup, poor sods. They had to drink out of a tin of Carnation milk with the top off of it."

"Young Paul" Evans, who has inherited his father's cockney as well as his pitch, has reached some kind of pinnacle by finding an arcade with a roof over his head in the forecourt of Harrow-on-the-Hill station. As he says: "For people wot was out in all weathers, it's a piece of heaven."

Even 10 years ago, he says, it was possible for traders to go to market and bid for the flowers. "Now they've murdered us small 'uns wiv the blower – the bloke says 'Ferget it son, them's all sold to bloody Tesco'.

"Anybody can sell flowers already bunched and no one sticks to what they're supposed to sell. People that know nothing sell roses on garage forecourts and charge the earth. If it wasn't for wreaths, the flower shops would be dead."

You hear the same historical accent – and similar sentiments – from the brothers Taylor, Daniel, aged 82, and Albert, 70, who still have family pitches in South Harrow, Sudbury Hill and Cannons Park.

Their father, Jabez, worked in the same area as the Evanses. He was a flower-seller all his life with interruptions for the Boer and Great wars, and their eldest sister, Affelia, had 11 children and ran her own shop in Kew before retiring. Daniel remembers lugging a hamper through Acton on the day of one of the great Zeppelin raids during the First World War, puzzled at the absence of people on the streets.

"I thought my mum's not going to take nothing today," he recalls, "but I found them all taking cover in a pub in Acton called Skeggses."

Daniel finds the modern business frankly dull. "In the old market a lot of show business people used to come from their clubs in the middle of the night and dance – there was a party atmosphere. Also people noo each other, know what I mean? The flower-gels were the great characters in the place."

They have no honour roll to commemorate them but another old timer, known universally as "Buck" Cook, along with other old-time marketeers compiled a list: Sally Cook (of Watford); Liz English; Dolly Tubbs; Ada Allen; and Katy Cruse of Camden Town, known for her reluctance to set foot on the pavement without breakfasting on her daily eye-opener of neat gin.

Except for a lady called Amy, who has worked for years around the Church Street market and, though currently unfindable, still preserves eccentric premises in a cellar off Little Venice, the flower-trade survivors are all male.

Daniel Taylor, who served in the 17/21 Lancers, and had six other brothers who "did their bit", not to mention one WAAF and one Wren sister, is still to be seen three days a week outside Sudbury Hill station. He regards Nine Elms as "a cushy number", but at 82 is content to take advantage of its namby-pamby facilities.

He is also a very good man to buy roses from on St Valentine's Day or Mothering Sunday (the one day in the year when we buy most flowers). "I'll give you a better deal than 'arrods," he says, winking. "After all, I don't have their over'eads, do I?"

Valerie Pile is one of the newer generation of flower sellers. She works on the flower stall on the corner of Kensington Park Gardens and Blenheim Crescent, just off the Portobello Road.

She started working on Saturdays in flower shops when she was still a schoolgirl growing up in the area; then at 15 her mother arranged an apprenticeship with Moyses Stevens, the court florists in the West End. From there she progressed, via other West End shops, to her own stall at Wembley market, and finally to the 'Bello, where she runs the pavement stall with Bill Cooper.

Bill used to sell antiques on Saturdays but he went bust so turned instead to flowers, which he says "are far nicer than cigarettes or newspapers – and more profitable".

They own a pink hut and rent pavement space from the chemist next door. The sides of the hut are covered with notices appealing for the return of lost cats. It is, as Bill says, "a very sociable life".

"I've never met a husband here yet," 46-year-old Valerie says. "I suppose there must be some around, but only lovers patronize us. Once, when I was at Wembley, a gentleman asked for a red rose – just one, asked me to wrap it and tie it with a nice ribbon – "make a nice job," he said, and then he handed it back to me as a gift!"

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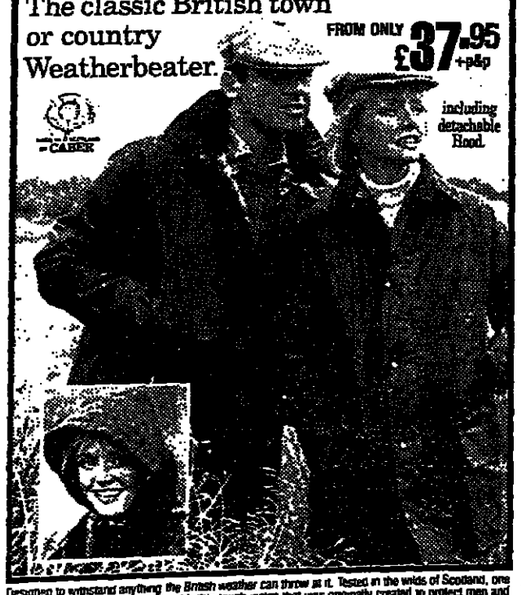
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Why it's always roses

The British may not be quite the least romantic nation when it comes to buying flowers, that honour goes to the Spanish – but we run them a close second. A table of 13 countries compiled in the mid-80s placed the UK 12th with an annual per capita expenditure of £5.17, far behind the flamboyant Swiss and Dutch, who tied for first place at £21.28 each.

● *Market research reinforces the national stereotypes and shows that the Scots are easily the meanest flower purchasers in the country, while inhabitants of the South-west, Lancashire and Yorkshire spend the most.*

● *According to Interflora, males almost always order roses when women would really prefer mixed bouquets in the now fashionable pastel colours composed largely of Gerbera (from Holland), with the indispensable Gypsophila (also from Holland), and its white button flowers, particularly a variety called "Bristol Fairy". However, males never order Gerbera because so few of them know the name.*

● *The most popular flowers in the week before Valentine's Day at Nine Elms are red roses, mainly*



Mercedes, Jaguar,and Gabriel from Israel; standard carnations (with a single flower), spray carnations, daffodils, tulips, freesias: and what are known in the trade as all year round chrysanthemums, or "AYR's" for short.

● *If the blooms are looking a little jaded, there are chemical stabilizers to preserve or perk up cut flowers – sold in the trade under the name Crysal – but insiders claim that nothing beats "good old fashioned bottled lemonade, mixed liberally with water". No one knows why this is, but it is widely believed that the crucial ingredient is the fizz.*

● *Although the Middle East is now a strong flower exporter, as is South America, the Dutch continue to dominate the world market. In 1986 they sold 63 per cent of the world's cut flowers, followed by Colombia (13 per cent), Israel (8 per cent) and Italy (7 per cent).*

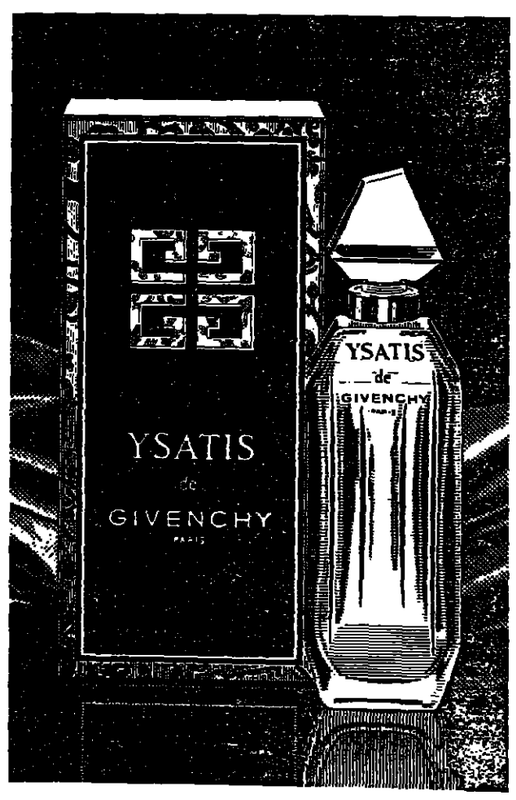
● *As befits the market leaders, the Dutch are probably the most technology-minded. They are keen not only on new varieties, such as the new tulips called Washington, Rekreado and Baroness, but also on using artificial growing media, importing alien wasps to kill local flies without insecticides, and employing the new generation of robots for doing the dull work in greenhouses.*

● *Flowers from the south of France used to be sold in Britain, but nowadays go to their domestic market or Switzerland and West Germany, whose economies are more prosperous than ours and where people will happily pay higher prices.*

● *Spain is seen as the coming exporter for flowers (and fruit and vegetables) because of their cheap labour costs. It's almost impossible for British growers to compete with them. In South America, where labour is cheaper still, the problem is transport costs. It is also hard to find cargo space on the aircraft.*

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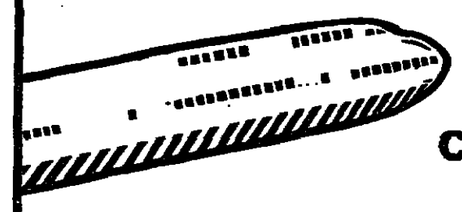
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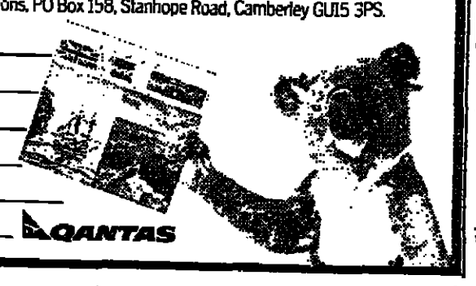


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TRAVEL

TRAVEL NEWS

Thailand à la carte

Chiang Mai, visited by the Prince and Princess of Wales last week, features on Asia *Voyages'* new gastronomic tour of Thailand. Those on the first £1,800 tour departing on April 7 will be in Chiang Mai for the Thai new year festival of Songkran. (01-408 2055).

● **If a luxury walking holiday sounds like a contradiction in terms, look at the Alternative Travel Group's Journeys brochure. Good food, comfortable beds, and interesting itineraries in Italy, France, Portugal and Britain make for healthy holidays. (0865-251195).**

Above the kings

The Airship and Balloon Company of Telford in Shropshire has just finished a series of proving flights in Egypt's Valley of the Kings. Regular passenger ascents in hot air balloons are due to start in early summer — too late for the current holiday brochures but bookable locally in Luxor. (0952 660045).

● *French Railways has expanded its Motorail network with a new Boulogne to Bologna route into Italy. Departures are on Friday evenings from June to September. Prices start at £219. (01-439 7233)*

See for yourself

Wine for 4p a litre, beer at 20p for a half litre, prime lamb for £1.50 a kilo — that is what devaluation of the Yugoslav dinar has done for self-catering prices this summer. Yugotours reports bookings are 6 per cent up on this time last year. (01-734 7321).

S. C. P.

TRAVEL BOOKS

● In *Beyond the Pyramids* (Unwin Hyman, £12.95) Douglas Kennedy takes on modern Egypt with a vigour uncommon in travel writing. Here is an Egypt where Bedouin watch American television in the desert and monks know a thing or two about computing. It is amusing, and serious, and brisk.

● **William H. Miller's *The Cruise Ships* (Conway Maritime Press, £15.95) traces the evolution of cruising over the past 25 years. The ships and their personalities are brought to life through the recollections of passengers and crew.**

Croissants with cactus

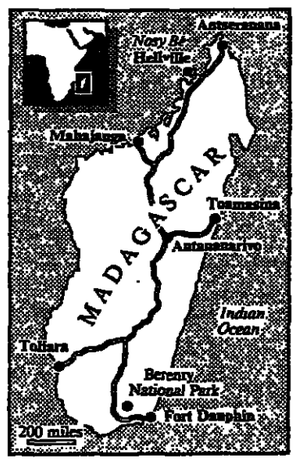
Keith Spence discovers an exotic blend of cultures in Madagascar, where *moura-moura* is still the order of the day

At moments of crisis, cartoon Frenchmen throw their hands in the air while uttering loud cries of "oh là là". The only time I have witnessed this phenomenon was not in France but at Fort Dauphin in southern Madagascar, where the jovial Malagasy hall porter cum hotel handyman reacted in this way when I told him that my shower was producing a loud belching noise but no water.

Although Madagascar was a French colony for only 60-odd years until independence in 1960, there is still a Gallic flavour to this enormous and exotic island. Apart from French, which is the country's second language (no use trying to talk English to a Malagasy), reminders of France are everywhere. Sturdy round-topped distance-stones straight from Normandy mark off the kilometres beside pot-holed roads, flatteringly described as Routes Nationaux. Before they set off for school, the neatly uniformed Fort Dauphin children queue at the village bakery for croissants and baguettes, while their elder brothers trot down to the *beach for a game of football. And in* a roadside hut miles from anywhere I saw two girls hopefully trying to sell bottles of orangeade below the legend "Épicerie Moderne."

Perhaps Brittany rather than France itself would be nearer the mark. In Antananarivo I spotted a "Crêperie de la Duchesse Anne", which might have come from a street in Quimper, among more local enterprises like the École Razanamparany and the Société Libyo-Malgache. Instead of Brittany's standing stones and calvaries, Madagascar has extraordinary pole-like cacti 30 feet high and clusters of *tall funerary monuments* where the Malagasy ancestors congregate after death. When it comes to sitting down at table, in Madagascar as in Brittany you should go for the seafood rather than the meat.

Madagascar is the "Great Red *Island*" and the "*Island of* Contrasts", and both these clichés happen to be true. From the air, Madagascar is startlingly red, like a chunk of Mars dumped down in the Indian Ocean 200 miles east of Mozambique. The red soil glares *through the sadly denuded tree* cover, while the rivers flow blood-red with the rich, irreplaceable topsoil they carry down to the sea. It



is great, in size at any rate, extending about 1,000 miles long by 300 at its widest.

Contrast is everywhere — in the diversity of Madagascar's regions, which range from luxuriant rain forest to bone-dry cactus-filled upland; in Malagasy faces, which range from pure African to pure Polynesian; and in the islanders' beliefs, which include Christianity, Islam, animism and ancestor-worship.

The capital Antananarivo (Tana for short) goes several hills better than Rome. It is built on no fewer than 12 hilltops, separated by gorges where houses perch dangerously on the steep and rocky slopes.

The highest of the hills is crowned by the huge Rova, or Queen's Palace, built around 1830 by a Frenchman, Jean Laborde, for Queen Ranavalona I. Known as Ranavalona the Cruel from the savagery of her punishments, which included hurling criminals (and Christians) over the precipice on which the Rova stands or submitting them to an agonizing ordeal by poison, she stands at the entry of Madagascar into the modern world like a dark and sinister ogress. In the 1870s Laborde's wooden palace was given an incongruous stone "skin" by a Scottish architect, James Cameron, and is now a most peculiar hybrid of a building, best seen from a distance.

At Tana's weekly market, known



Malagasy market: the Zoma at Antananarivo, the capital built on 12 hills

as the Zoma (Friday in Malagasy), there are colourful *lamba* cloths for the living and shrouds for the dead. Whole stalls are devoted to school exercise books, for education is at a *premium in Madagascar, and its* equipment is hard to come by. Everywhere in town and country children come up to you asking quietly for "*monnaie pour cahiers*" or "*monnaie pour stylos*". On my last day in Tana I handed half a *dozen ballpoints to a group of soft-*spoken nine-year-olds, who immediately turned into small savages fighting over the spoils.

Unless you have the use of a four-wheel drive vehicle, it is almost impossible to get to know the remoter countryside. The roads are appalling. Intrepid travellers can do *the circuitous* 1,200-kilometre journey from Tana to Fort Dauphin by road, but this takes several days, while Air Madagascar cuts the time down to a couple of hours. Fort Dauphin, founded by the French early in the 17th century, stands on a windswept promontory by the Indian Ocean. The beaches are magnificent, and the swimming is said to be good, but the east coast of Madagascar is also said to be shark-infested, so I didn't try it.

Fort Dauphin is the key to the upland "Spiny Forest" of weird cacti, and to the Berenty Nature Reserve, home of the ring-tailed lemurs which are Madagascar's most cuddly form of wildlife. Berenty is owned and run by a 60-year-old Frenchman, M. Jean de Heaulme, who also owns three hotels in Fort Dauphin, a sisal plantation, and a factory for processing the sisal fibres into bales of what looks like white horsehair.

Berenty's ring-tails are comical creatures, cramming their faces with bananas, clambering over visitors to the reserve, and behaving like greedy puppies. The reserve also has the bigger and shyer white-coated sifakas, and a large population of fruit bats. At Berenty you look in vain for the larger forms of wildlife, which are not found in Madagascar — though the very African-looking river that marks the edge of the reserve cries out for a hippo or two.

A thousand miles away, at the north-west corner of Madagascar, the offshore island of Nosy Bé is beginning to approach the status of a tourist resort. Nosy Bé has a fair choice of hotels, from the former Holiday Inn to simple bungalow clusters above the beach. The sand is white, the palm trees lean over the shoreline — and there are no sharks. If Madagascar ever gets its Benidorm, this is surely where it will be.

Meanwhile in Nosy Bé's little capital, the port of Hellville (quite unfairly named), turkeys scratch among the crumbling French colonial mansions of the main square, and the harbour dozes in the sun, coming to life only when a tourist boat sets off for yet another lemur-haunted island. *Moura-moura* ("slowly-slowly", Madagascar's answer to *mañana*) reigns supreme, and the brashness of mass tourism still seems light years in the future.

TRAVEL NOTES

Air France flies to Antananarivo (Ivato) Airport via Paris. Fares start at £1,387 return. First class is £2,624 return. Visas, costing £25, are available from the Honorary *Consulate of Madagascar*, 69-70 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7JA. A double room at the Hilton Hotel at Tana costs from £60 a night without meals. Reservations 01-631 1767. Tour operators include David Sayers Travel, which specializes in wildlife tours (01-995 3642); Guerba Expeditions (0373 826611); Silk Cut Travel (0730 65211), Swan Hellenic (01-831 1616) and Twickers World (01-892 7706).

Too much of a good thing

SKI REPORT

It was almost inevitable that after a dearth of snow the weather would switch to an abundance. This has produced wonderful skiing in many places, but at a price. Frequent *storms and high winds have* meant limited opportunities to exploit the magnificent powder snow. More worrying is the increased danger of avalanches, and with more snow on the way some areas in western Switzerland and France are becoming very dangerous.

The most treacherous conditions are off-piste, where *loose snow or deep powder* can easily slide. But increased development is making new runs more vulnerable. Where new pistes have been bulldozed across the mountainside, especially below the tree line, the chances of avalanches are greater.

But all this is aimed at the more adventurous skier. Although the resorts err on the side of caution, heed the warnings: even small slides of as little as 30 yards can be fatal. In any case, why take risks? There is now masses of snow and because there is no end in sight to the unsettled weather there will be more than enough to go round.

W. J. Burroughs

SKI EVENTS

SWITZERLAND

St Moritz: International Horse Races on the frozen lake. 49th Grand Prix. Cresta Run, Feb 21; Stagni Cup (handicap), Feb 24; Nigel Moores Memorial Race (Americas), Feb 28.

Davos: Volvo Ski show, Feb 19-20.

FRANCE

Flaine: Torchlight descent, Feb 18.

Les Arcs 1800: first Trophy for Future Champions, Feb 13-20.

Courchevel 1850: Mardi Gras and fancy dress toboggan downhill, Feb 16.

Courchevel 1650: Derby du Rox Merlet Downhill, Feb 18.

AUSTRIA

Mayrhofen: Freestyle Show, Feb 21.

Peter Hankey

OUTINGS

NOEL COWARD PREVIEW: A group of paintings by Sir Noel Coward will be sold at Christie's next Thursday. They can be viewed tomorrow — displayed in period settings while pianist Gary Ansdell recreates Coward's better-known talents.
Christie's, 8 King's St, St James's, London SW1 (01-839 9060). Tomorrow 2pm-5pm. Free.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL EVENTS: Bird lovers can see premières of three RSPB wildlife films — *Island of Sand, Mud Matters* and *A Little Owl's Story* today. And tonight, Irish poet Paul Durcan reads a selection of his poetry.
Royal Festival Hall, Belvedere Road, London SE1 (01-928 3191). Films, today 3pm, tickets £2.60 to £3.90. Poetry reading in the Waterloo Room: today 7.30pm, adult £2, child/student £1.50.

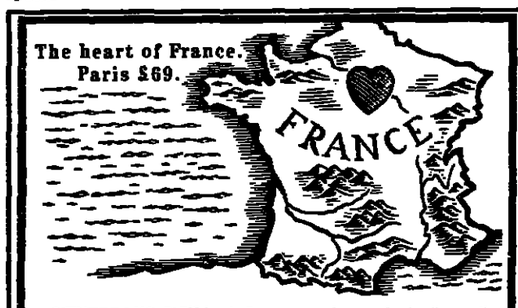
LONDON WILDLIFE TRUST EVENTS: Events for all concerned with wildlife in the city and its environs — whether members of the Trust or not. Conservation projects today in Brent (at the Welsh Harp), and tomorrow in Lewisham (Brookmill Road Nature Reserve) and Sutton (Ruffet and Big Wood). Also water walk tomorrow in Bexley at Crayford Marshes and a hedgefinder's party in Fryent Country Park.
Contacts: Today, Brent (01-203 7125). Tomorrow Lewisham (01-692 8403 or 690 7592); Bexley (01-300 8036); Sutton (01-669 1106); Brent (01-900 5449).

WORDS 88: Eileen Atkins and Julian Glover present *Tellers of Tales*, in which they read narrative verse.
South Bromsgrove High School, Assembly Hall, Bromsgrove. Tomorrow 8pm. *Tickets £3.50. Information and* bookings (0527 76625).

WINTER SUNDAYS AT LEEDS CASTLE: Leeds Castle is open every Saturday and Sunday afternoon in winter. Combined with a four-course Sunday lunch held in the 17th-century Fairfax Hall, a visit makes a nice family outing.
Leeds Castle, Maidstone, Kent. Saturdays, Sundays until March 31, noon-4pm. Castle, grounds and Sunday lunch, adults £13.50, child £9.35. *Booking essential* (0622 65400).

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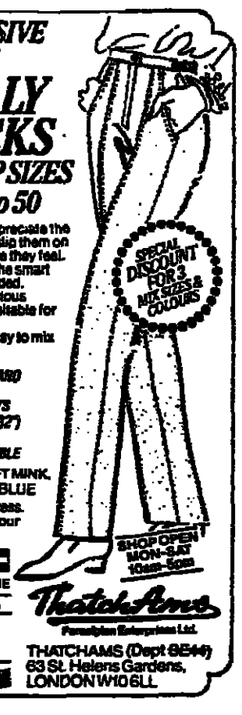
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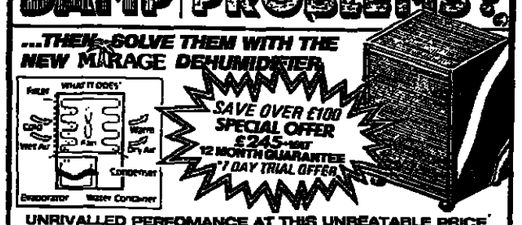
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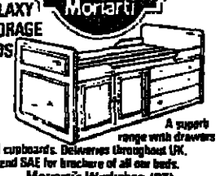
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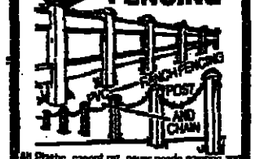
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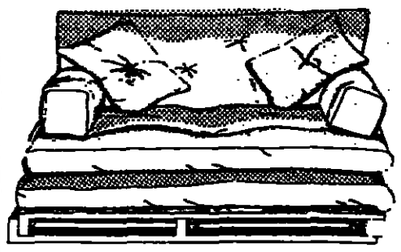
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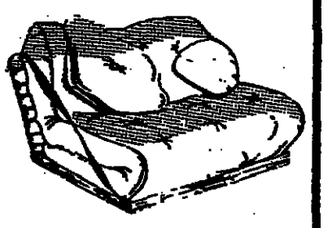
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SHOPPING

Art in warp and weft

Nicole Swengley looks at a new exhibition which weaves together 50 designers in textiles



All tied up: scarves and bow ties by Elizabeth Milner. Inset, silk and linen dress, twisted for storage, by Ann Richards

A new exhibition, Tex-Style, opened yesterday at Smith's Galleries in Covent Garden, bringing together more than 50 designer-makers who work with some form of textiles.

Rugs, screens, furnishing fabrics, scarves, shawls, blankets, ties, wall hangings, hats, lingerie, knitwear and fashion are all included. As well as showing and selling their work, the designer-makers — some are well-established and others recently graduated from college — also accept individual commissions.

The idea to put on a show which bridges the gap between trade fairs and crafts exhibitions, drawing designers, manufacturers and customers closer together, came from Christina Smith, proprietor of Smith's Galleries, an enthusiastic collecter of shawls and other textiles. "Our aim is threefold," she says. "Firstly, to make everyone aware just how wonderful modern textiles are. People often have no idea what's available, nor do they appreciate that, in the long run, top quality means value-for-money.

"Secondly, we hope to encourage designers to look beyond producing one-off designs by adapting their work for the production line rather than relying solely on individual commissions. We also hope that manufacturers may be sufficiently inspired by the exhibition to produce limited runs of brilliant textiles rather than leaving them to be sold as one-offs at craft stalls. In other words, not to base production purely on considerations of price."

Complementing the exhibition, which will be held annually, is a colourful display of square scarves, all of which are for sale, at the Café Casbar next door. These limited editions come from a selection of designers not represented at Tex-Style, using a variety of fabrics and printing techniques. Prices range from £15 to £50.

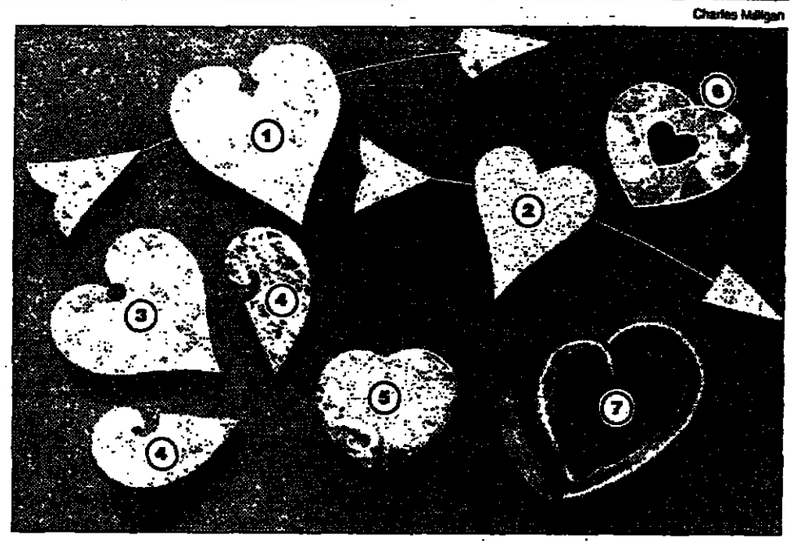
Tex-Style: Smith's Galleries, 56 Earlham Street, London WC2 until February 26. Monday to Thursday, 10.30am-6pm; Fri and Sat, 10.30am-7pm; Sun, noon-5pm.

Love objects

Charles Milligan

Gifts for Valentine's Day are often soppy, silly or tasteless, but anyone whose idea of an unusual and individual Valentine's present goes beyond foil-covered heart-shaped chocolates might dash down to the Victoria & Albert Museum today or tomorrow to catch the last two days of the Crafts Council's showcase exhibition.

Gifts For Valentines is a small collection of specially commissioned pieces from 17 designers on sale at the Crafts Council shop in the museum. With prices ranging from £12 to £1,600, there's a spectrum of work from lesser-known designers, as well as pieces by Wendy Ramshaw, Jane Short, Vicki Ambery-Smith and Gerda Flockinger, whose work is represented in the V & A.



Be my Valentine . . **1 and 2:** dyed anodized aluminium brooches by Jane Adam, £69 and £57.50; **3 and 4:** aluminium brooch, £46, and ear-rings, £57.50, by Jane Adam; **5:** enamel on silver brooch by Jane Short, £236.50; **6:** enamel on silver brooch by Jane Short, £258; **7:** twisted heart brooch in oxydized silver with gold inlay by Daphne Krinos, £126.85

THE TIMES COOK

Delights for the dragon

Chinese New Year is only days away and Frances Bissell found plenty of ideas worth celebrating in Hong Kong

Diana Leadbetter



I am writing this in the bustle of a Hong Kong hotel lobby in the run up to Chinese New Year.

My stay in Hong Kong has been a culinary education. With my sister-in-law, I go to Wan Chai market to buy food for the evening meal. We choose our chicken, still live in its cage; the man weighs it and gives us a token which we hand in when we leave the market. In return we are given the chicken, dead, cleaned and plucked and in a carrier bag. Fresh prawns and grey mullet are added.

One stall sells nothing but large, pale yellow Tientsin pears. We buy a bundle of fresh, green *choy sum*. There are many more varieties of leafy greens. Piles of water chestnuts, grapes and pineapples from America. Local tomatoes. Taro. Bananas large and small. Baskets of 1,000-year-old eggs. Pork butchers selling cuts of fresh meat, preserved meat and roast pork. Other shops selling wind-dried sausages, preserved duck and whole preserved piglets.

My shopping lesson is followed by a lesson in domestic Chinese cookery. I have learnt how to make squid with broccoli, fried rice, cucumber and spare ribs, soup with beef, green turnips and carrots, chicken and vegetables.

But you do not have to live in Hong Kong to cook these dishes. My experiments will continue when I return to London. Sunday mornings will find me shopping in Gerrard Place, Gerrard Street and Shaftesbury Avenue. Preserved duck, meat and sausages are to be found there, as are all the green vegetables. Fresh noodles and won ton wrappers are not to be missed. Quail eggs cost less than in my local deli and quails are fresh, plump and not expensive.

For those who do not have access to Chinese supermarkets found in many of our big cities, or the high street multiples which sell many of the ingredients, I have included a recipe for braised spare rib chops from *Yan-kit So's Chinese Cookery*, published next week by Walker Books (£9.95).

For more elaborate dishes, I have included a couple of recipes from Gaddi's Restaurant at The Peninsula. The chef, Peter Hatt, uses oriental flavours and spices with a very light hand, which adds an extra touch to his classic dishes.

Quail consommé with oriental mushrooms
(Serves 4)

This is much easier to make than the length of the ingredients might indicate. It is simply an arrangement of cooked and raw food in a soup plate over which you pour the hot consommé.

- 2 quails
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 small onion, peeled and sliced
- 1 carrot, peeled and sliced
- 1 sliced celery stalk
- 3½ oz/100gm fresh shitake mushrooms
- 2oz/60gm fresh oyster mushrooms or 8 fresh button mushrooms
- 6 or 8 chive stalks
- 6 chervil leaves or flat parsley leaves
- 4 tablespoons sherry
- ½oz/15gm unsalted butter
- 4 mangetout
- 1½oz/40g raw beetroot, peeled and cut into fine shreds

Remove the breasts from the quails, and put them to one side. Heat the olive oil in a heavy pan, and fry the two quail carcasses until well-browned, and this will give the consommé a good rich colour. Add the onions and fry these too until browned but not burnt. Then add the carrot and celery. Remove the stalks from the mushrooms and add these to the pan. Pour on about 2 pints/approximately 1 litre of water, bring to the boil, remove any scum which forms on top of the liquid and simmer for 40 minutes or until you have a well-flavoured stock. Instead of cooking the quail carcasses in water, you could use light chicken stock, a mixture of stock and wine or a mixture of wine and water. Strain the consommé through muslin or cheesecloth into a clean saucepan. Add the chives, cut into short lengths and then add the chervil and sherry. Dice the shitake mushrooms and fry them in butter. Remove and let them dry on paper towels. Fry the quail breasts for two to three minutes on each side, remove from the pan, and slice into three pieces on the oblique. Slice the button mushrooms or pull the oyster mushrooms into segments. Split the mangetout in half.

It is now time to arrange the soup plates, which should be wide and shallow. Arrange some shredded beetroot in the centre of each plate and a mound of shitake mushroom pieces on top. Surround with sliced mushrooms and mangetout, and arrange the quail slices on top. Put the soup plates in a heated oven while you bring the soup to the boil. Place the garnished soup plates in front of each guest, then pour on the boiling consommé.

Grilled scallops in a light soya mousseline sauce
(Serves 4)

This is a dish that can be partially prepared in advance. The scallops can be cleaned and put to marinate and the sauce base can be made a few hours in advance. The final preparation is very quick; the scallops need only a couple of minutes under the grill or in a hot pan, and the sauce can be finished off at the same time. Peter Hatt garnishes the dish with lightly cooked soya bean sprouts and vegetable "tagliatelle" made by shaving off strips of courgette with a swivel peeler, but you can garnish as you wish. I would serve a bowl of plain steamed or boiled rice with it as well.

- 16 or 24 medium scallops
- 4 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- good pinch freshly ground black pepper
- good pinch fine sea salt
- 4 ripe tomatoes, peeled, deseeded and diced
- ½oz/15gm butter
- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons fish stock
- 6 tablespoons mild soy sauce
- ¼ teaspoon Tabasco sauce
- 3oz/85gm unsalted butter, chilled and cut into cubes
- 2 tablespoons whipped cream

Dry the scallops very well, making sure that you have removed the pad of muscle. Marinate them in the olive oil and pepper, salting them just before grilling them.

To make the sauce, cook the tomatoes in butter for two or three minutes, add the vinegar, fish stock, soy sauce and Tabasco and boil for a further two minutes. Blend and sieve the mixture back into a saucepan. I find that a small frying pan is perfect for making this kind of sauce. Spread over a broader surface, the sauce reduces more quickly.

Grill or fry the scallops for a minute on each side or less if they are fairly large and thin rather than small and chunky. Remove from the heat and keep them warm while you finish the sauce. Gently heat the sauce and add the cubes of butter gradually. Shake the pan with a swirling wrist motion to "mount" the sauce — that is, amalgamate the butter with the tomato base without it separating. Arrange scallops and sauce on heated dinner plates with your chosen garnish.

Braised spare rib chops
(Serves 2 to 3 as main course)

If for any reason you are out of such Chinese essentials as ginger, garlic and spring onion and yet would still like to cook something Chinese in taste, try this dish. Easy to prepare, the end result is pleasing, not least because of the subtle vinegary touch in the sauce.

- 1 ¼lb/625gm spare rib chops, cut into large pieces, or pork chops
- ½ tablespoon salt
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 tablespoon light soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon dark soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon rice vinegar or 2¼ teaspoons white wine vinegar
- ½ tablespoon shaoxing wine or medium-dry sherry

Put the spare rib chops or pork chops into a heavy pan or casserole. Season with the salt, sugar, soy sauces, vinegar and wine or sherry, then add about ½pt/300ml water and bring to boil. Reduce the heat and continue to simmer gently, covered, for 1½ to 1¾ hours, turning the pieces over two to three times so that both sides can absorb the seasonings. If the liquid is evaporating too quickly, add a little more water. Test if the pork is tender enough. Simmer for another 20 minutes or longer, if necessary. Remove the meat to a serving dish. If there is too much liquid left in the pan, reduce it over a high heat then pour the sauce over the pork. Serve hot.

This dish can be made a day in advance and kept in the refrigerator. Its taste actually improves overnight. It can also be frozen.

EATING OUT

Surprise in the Fens

Jonathan Meades discovers a corner of Covent Garden in Cambridgeshire and a basement's basement in Battersea

Francis Mosley



The natural order goes for a burton in the Fens. Water at three levels and all of them above land, above you; controlled floods contained between the Bedford rivers so that when you look down the eerie and terrible straightness of the New Bedford all the land to the west is silver and liquid, and all that to the right black plough.

These are frightening acres, harsh and rectilinear and without the mitigating prettiness that the Dutch colour their land with. Wisbech, the finest town under the outsize sky, more resembles Copenhagen than it does anywhere in Holland. It is a town whose warehouses have not been converted into studios, lofts and arts centres. The place is handsome, doggedly provincial, staid and lacking the trappings of towns that live on tourism — this is, of course, part of its appeal. Wisbech is precisely not the sort of place where high-class restaurants are meant to be found. And the Rose and Crown on the market square is not the sort of hotel which you'd expect to harbour a restaurant so good as Le Marais. In fact, the disjunction between hotel and restaurant is startling.

The hotel is not exactly drab, but nor is it in the least bit chichi; it is decoratively of the day before yesterday or, perhaps, the day before that. The restaurants of such hotels usually provide such traditional dishes as scampi in the basket, gammon 'n' pineapple and, exotically, avocado with prawns.

The restaurant here does not do that sort of stuff, and, yes, it is pretty chichi. It clearly belongs to a different world to that of its host building; black Mackintoshish chairs, white walls, pastel prints, black up-lights. This is a piece of Covent Garden that has been transported, unamended, a hundred odd miles north. Nothing astonishing about this, I suppose, for the people who run Le Marais used to run Tourment d'Amour, which, if it wasn't in the heart of Covent Garden, was at the extremity of one of its limbs. I ate there once, and not badly, though I could have done without the hyper-confident American at the next table who asked what I was eating, and with synchronous gesture and request, announced: "Mind if I try some", and stuck his fork into my duck.

There was no chance of a repetition of that startling action at Le Marais. For one thing, the tables are well spaced, beyond arm's reach of each other. For a second, the place was empty on mid-week lunchtime — which is not surprising, given the nature of the town. By metropolitan standards, it is inexpensive for cooking of its consistently high standard — about £50 for two; but for a not markedly affluent country town, it's probably many pounds too much.

One first course, an unherbed and underseasoned tomato sauce, was ordinary. Two others were splendid. Sole fillets, lightly steamed, were served with a subtly savoury crab sauce, skinned tomato flesh and mangetout peas. A rather bald looking large pastry envelope contained a light, yet firm, chicken mousse, in whose centre was a cache of sauce made from fortified wine of some sort; this was flashy, assured, delicious.

Main courses: beef with a sweetish shallot and red wine sauce; brill, rolled in finely powdered rosemary with a creamy fish reduction sauce; lamb fillet, barded with fat, served with fresh noodles and a potent meat reduction sweetened with currant jelly. All these tended to richness, over-richness maybe; they were generously served with properly prepared vegetables.

The kitchen's distinguishing marks — richness, generosity, aggressive flavours, good ideas confidently executed — were further discernible in two sumptuous sweets: a chocolate truffle cake and a lemon cake accompanied by tangerines preserved in syrup. The coffee was not impressive, but the cakes and truffles with it were adequate compensation.

With two half bottles from a pretty useful list — an '84 Merusault from Jadot and a '79 Cornas from Jaboulet — and three aperitifs, the bill for three was £84. Two will pay betwen £50 and £55. This is a fine establishment, surely the best for miles around, and one worth travelling for. Like Wisbech, it deserves to be far better known than it is.

The good thing about the Roux brothers' latest venture, **Les Trois Plats**, is that it has taken over the site of their second boil-in-a-bag establishment, the first one of which I wrote about 18 months ago, without much enthusiasm. The bad thing about Les Trois Plats is that it is two storeys beneath the ground, a basement's basement. I find such subterraneousness as disquieting as rivers which are higher than roads.

The service is dour, curt and conducted by young French persons who clearly want to become strict psychiatric nurses when they find their way back to daylight. Meanwhile, they have a pretty place to work in — it is mainly Provencal in inspiration, with the fabrics and prints of that area, judiciously used. The walls are Pompeian red hessian with a white tiled dado.

The name of the establishment is also its menu formula — three choices at each stage of a three-course meal. A half bottle of house wine per person is thrown in for the fixed price of £23. The wine (bottled by Duboeuf) is, unusually for this sort of package, quite drinkable. Even if you don't want to drink it, though, you will be charged for it, and charged for the mineral water you have in its leiu.

Cooking here has its ups and downs. A lamb's tongue feuilleté was good — well-made pastry, fondant offal, muscular sauce — but would have been better had it not been so eagerly reheated; as it was, some of the sauce was burnt on to the plate. A dish of duck with turnips was exemplary — fine meat, savoury *jus*, delicious wafer-thin spuds.

There was more good meat, three sorts, in *l'assiette du boucher* — pork with a thin herby sauce, beef sauced with mustard, lamb sauced with tarragon; the trouble was that the sauces were just not so positive as the meats. A cauliflower soup was all right. The desserts weren't — we left nearly all of the stodgy bavarois and a lumpen almond and pear tart. Needless to say, the staff didn't ask if there was anything amiss.

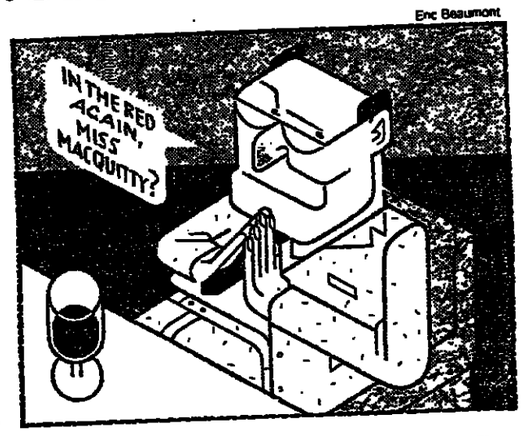
Incidentally, the River Café, London W6, which I wrote about last week, is open from 8.30am-7.30pm, for snacks and early supper as well as lunch.

Le Marais: Rose & Crown Hotel, Market Place, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire (Tel: 0945 583187) 12.30-2pm and 7.30-10pm every day
Le Trois Plats: 4, Sydney Street, London SW3. (Tel: 01-352 3433). Monday to Saturday, 7-11pm.

DRINK

Delectable double act

Eric Beaumont



Invest now in the great red and white burgundies, writes Jane MacQuitty

If ever there was a time to buy fine burgundy, this must be it. The 1985 red burgundy vintage was outstanding and the 1986 whites, judging by those which I have tasted so far, are equally exciting.

True, good white burgundy vintages are far more frequent, with about two vintages out of three considered successful. Red burgundy's success rate is pitiful in comparison, with good vintages occurring only every three years or so. But in this cool northern region truly great burgundian vintages, such as the '85 reds and '86 whites, are much rarer than this: perhaps a once-in-a-decade event. Any burgundy lover, therefore, who misses out on this classic vintage duo may not have an opportunity to buy their like again for some time.

In the meantime, prices are likely to rise steeply. The small quantities of burgundies produced annually (about a quarter of Bordeaux's harvest) plus an increasingly enthusiastic world-wide demand, especially in America, are the prime reasons for burgundy's high prices. And the fact remains that there is less burgundy, and a lot less fine burgundy, to go around than there is of the equivalent wines of Bordeaux or the Rhône.

For some people, regardless of cost and no matter how close the Californian taste-alikes get, there will never be an alternative to the sublime, rare taste of a great white or red burgundy. For them, the dismal start to the 1985 burgundy vintage, with severe vine-killing frosts falling as low as -25°C, must have been a nightmare. A damp spring followed, but the flowering took place successfully, only to give way to a mediocre summer. As usual, what made the vintage was the final few months and in 1985's case this was an extraordinary long run of warm, sunny, dry days from mid-August until the end of October. The consistent red '85s have a good deep colour plus a rich concentrated voluptuous fruity taste.

The 1986 vintage also had its ups and downs, but the flowering went well and, although rain caused some rot, the finished white wine had tremendous style, fruit and depth of flavour plus good life-enhancing acidity.

The specialist burgundy merchants are the places to go to secure your '85s and '86s. Berkmann Wine Cellars, 12 Brewery Road, London N7, still has stocks remaining of its cases-only '85 red burgundy offer. My favourites here include the delicious cinnamon scented and flowery-spicey palated '85 Chorey les Beaune from Tollot-Beaut, priced at £101.55. (Domaine Direct, 29 Wilmington Square, London WC1 £8.14 a bottle).

Bernard Morey's '85 Chassagne Montrachet, made from old vines, with its splendid delicate flowery-vegetal style is in the same league (Berkmann Wine Sellers, £99.45), as is the about to be shipped '85 Nuits Saint Georges from Alain Michelot with its elegant spicy-damson taste (BWC £179.65, Domaine Direct £12.50, excluding VAT).

Haynes, Hanson & Clark, 17 Lettuce Street, London SW6 is another useful '85 red burgundy source. Especially noteworthy is its '85 Corton-Bressandes from Olivier Leflaive Frères, with its glorious ripe plummy complex Pinot Noir fruit, priced at £19.95 a bottle. Louis Latour's '86 white burgundies, unlike his '85 or '86 reds, are well worth seeking out. Hicks & Don, 4 The Market Place, Westbury, Wiltshire, has an *en primeur* offer of these wines, so expect to pay about £14.50 extra per case for shipping, duty etc, of the prices quoted. The '86 Latour Meursault with its rich, full-flavoured fruit is excellent (Hicks & Don, £125.77), as is the delicious Meursault Genevrières with its wonderful zesty pineapply fruit (H & D, £159.49).

GARDENING

Orchids all in a flutter

Clare Roberts



A display of hybrid *Phalaenopsis* orchids looks like a cloud of unearthly, pale butterflies which have come simultaneously to rest. It was no surprise, therefore, to find that my orchid encyclopaedia calls them moth orchids.

Many people quite rightly oppose the import of orchid species from their wild habitat, and despite strict regulation in Britain, I would still be wary of purchasing a species orchid. However, most *Phalaenopsis* on sale here are hybrids, raised or bred in our own nurseries..

Bill and Joan Gaskell began keeping orchids as a hobby 12 years ago. Later, they expanded their greenhouse space and even converted their cellar into a laboratory for the delicate job of germinating seed and raising young plants. The Gaskells now run Woodstock Orchids, a small, personal business specializing in hybrid *Phalaenopsis* — one of the few orchids which can be kept as a domestic pot-plant at normal house temperatures.

With simple, regular care they will flower for seven months of the year. The secret is to use a pot with a water reservoir which moistens a layer of gravel in the base of the pot and provides constant humidity. The orchid pot must not sit on the gravel but about half an inch above it (balanced on a coffee jar lid or upside down pot saucer secured in the gravel).

The plants are naturally epiphytic, the aerial roots feeding from moisture laden air. The Gaskells have found the most convenient way to grow them is in a small pot about a quarter full of broken polystyrene to ensure drainage, the roots tucked into a special mixture of fibrous sphagnum and cork. The plant should be watered weekly (every other week with the addition of a rich fertilizer).

Phalaenopsis have no bulb-like structures and all the food is stored in the broad, glossy leaves. Because these are damaged by direct sunlight, they do well in a semi-shaded window sill or on a north or east facing window sill.

There are usually several flowers, blooming in sequence along the flowering spike, and more spikes can be encouraged if the spike in flower is cut off when there are still two perfect flowers remaining after all the others have faded. This stem will survive as a cut flower for several weeks more. The cut should be made on the flowering spike halfway between the place where the first flower set and the next node down (nodes are the bumpy formations which occur along the flower stem). Soon afterwards, the topmost node should begin to swell and produce another flower spike.

When they began to keep orchids, the Gaskells had several expensive failures as they struggled to find the best conditions. Woodstock Orchids aims to sell to the domestic buyer who may keep only one or two plants. Its service includes cultivation advice, and products such as humidifying pot holders, fertilizer, and growing medium.

Woodstock Orchids has put together a special complete pack available to readers of *The Times* for £20 (inc. p&p). This includes a flowering size *Phalaenopsis* with cultivation instructions, a box of fertilizer and a humidifying plant pot which will be despatched within four weeks, weather permitting. Woodstock Orchids, 50 Pound Hill, Great Brickhill, nr Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK17 9AS.

Francesca Greenoak

WEEKEND TIPS

- Sow seeds of trailing lobelia and impatiens to put in hanging baskets in spring.
- Cut down the canes of autumn-fruiting raspberries.

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THE ARTS

A Latin lesson

Everything is relative. "I've always been a quiet sort of person", said the Queen of Salsa, Celia Cruz, who for an hour in Anthony Wall's film about her for *Arena* (BBC2) demonstrated what a gloriously extrovert, hip-shaking, sublime belter of a singer she is — that is when she is not being a gloriously extrovert, red-hot mama of a performer off-stage.

Divine the goddess of Latin American music undoubtedly is, but the revelation by one adoring fan that "we see her as a kind of Virgin Mary" was again something of a semantic surprise. When it came to relating to mere mortals and commoners, Miss Cruz seemed modest and unassuming. When her dressmaker stuck a pin into her she made, for her, bearly a sound, merely a laughing shriek. Perhaps she

TELEVISION

was being understanding because he and his wife used to be dancers — ballroom and acrobatic. A faded picture of what looked like a two-headed centaur doing aerobics was produced for the camera.

This was a documentary that needed the minimum of commentary; wisely, Wall let Celia sing and speak for herself — in Spanish with subtitles. Since this Cuban exile has been based in New York for the past 25 years she probably could have spoken in English but the programme would have lost much of its flavour. The concert sequences were magnificent, and there was a delightful shot of Celia in her dressing room, the camera nosing from jar to jar, cream to cream, lotion to lotion. The Queen of Salsa may have a soul of pure music but she did give up piano lessons when young rather than cut her nails.

Tim Hodlin's report from Iran in *Dispatches* (Channel4) intriguingly undermined the glib Western image of a land of mad Mullahs. He was allowed onto an Iranian gun boat and talked to influential leaders. But the biggest surprise was the shopkeeper who sold cornflakes at £35 a packet. Everything is relative, even the value of a sunshine breakfast.

Andrew Hislop

Sobering up to success

Simon Banner meets Richard E Grant, who has reached fame as the smoking, drinking hero of *Withnail and I*

Richard E Grant smiles a wide smile. "Of course, it is one hell of a part," he says. "And to get that sort of part in your first film is something you just never expect to happen."

Popping pills and smoking dope on screen, hollow-cheeked and hungover, 31-year-old Grant makes one of the more memorable film debuts of recent years, cast as the roguish Withnail in the oddly-named *Withnail And I*, warmly welcomed by Geoff Brown on this page on Thursday. His confident performance offers sure proof of the talent for suggesting "wasted glamour" that apparently recommended him to the film's writer-director, Bruce Robinson, in the first place.

Wasted glamour is naturally at a premium in this enjoyably eccentric tale of two would-be actors (one-time Monocled Mutineer Paul McGann also stars) and their lives of unrelieved squalor somewhere in Camden at the end of the Sixties, although off screen and in person, the ebullient Grant's glamour looks not so much wasted as well-tended. Jeaned and leather-jacketed, his dark hair slicked neatly back from a tanned and fine-featured face, he recalls initial anxiety at the prospect of portraying a character who was sober for only two scenes in an entire film, reaching for a glass of mineral water as he does so.

"I was worried about how I would make somebody like Withnail watchable and convincing for the huge amount of time he is on screen," Grant admits. "At the start of the film he hasn't eaten for three days and is at some sort of crisis point. When he's not drunk, he's usually stoned, so in the end I resorted to making what I christened Drunk Charts, just so I knew what stage of stupefaction he was in at any given moment."

Clearly the charts paid off. The British-made *Withnail and I* has already been successfully released throughout the rest of the English-speaking world, with critics tending to single out Grant's performance as the pale and sleazy Withnail for particular praise. Several offers from Hollywood have come his way.

"Before *Withnail and I* was released in the States," Grant notes, "I don't think it was expected to be a hit. People said it was a dialogue movie and that there was no real plot. They said there were no car chases, no crocodiles and no bed scenes, and that Americans wouldn't understand it. But that wasn't the case at all. Along with *Wish You Were Here*, *Withnail* was the most successful British film of 1987 in the United States.

"It's a coming of age story, although of course at 30 Withnail's quite old to be coming of age, and as such I think the film has an appeal which is quite universal."

NICK ROGERS



Rogue male: Richard E Grant has an off-screen air of well-groomed glamour

It may nevertheless seem exotic to British audiences, if only for the decidedly unlovely portrait it paints of the much-mythologized Sixties. Despite one character calling them "the greatest decade known to mankind", Bruce Robinson's memories of the Sixties are largely of perpetual rain, Everest-like stacks of washing-up, joyless debauchery and generous helpings of despondency.

"Well, it certainly doesn't add to the myth that it was all flower-power, Mary Quant and a world that was there for the taking," Grant agrees. "The suggestion at the end is probably that Withnail is stuck in his rut and will turn into a drunk, although someone did say to me that he was the kind of person who would pull himself together and go into advertising."

Grant's own brush with the Swinging Sixties was on a visit to London in 1969. "I was 12 and had short back and sides," he says. "Piccadilly was full of hippies and my parents took me to see *Hair*. I think I enjoyed *Oliver!* more."

Born plain Richard Grant (the "E" is an "arbitrary vowel" designed to distinguish him from another actor of the same name), he grew up in Swaziland, a British colony until 1968 where his father was director of education. Although the town in which the family lived had just two cinemas and no theatre, Richard knew from the age of seven that he wanted to be an actor: "I don't know why exactly," he says, "and I'm certainly not going to tell you I'm a shrinking violet or so shy that I became an actor in order to escape into other characters. I'm not shy."

After attending the multi-racial Cape Town University in South Africa, Grant co-founded the radical Troupe Theatre Company, and during a two-year period appeared in a wide variety of plays, many of them at Johannesburg's Market Theatre, before deciding to come to London in 1982.

He arrived in Britain with two suitcases and no contacts, and found himself in the "chicken-and-egg" situation of not being able to get a job without having an agent and not being able to get an agent without first finding a job.

"I decided to set up a lunch hour play," he says, "and in the process of finding a venue for it I happened upon the Donmar Warehouse and by chance met Jonathan Miller there. He thought I was the lighting director he was waiting for. We talked for an hour and he gave me a job as a dogsbody on his production of *Hamlet*. After that I was a waiter for a while. Then I started to get work as an actor again."

It was Grant's performance in the award-winning *Honest, Decent and True*, an improvised film about advertising, which was the real turning point and led directly to the offer of a part in *Withnail and I*. *Withnail* has of course already given his career another boost.

Just back from Israel after four-and-a-half months making a mini-series for German television, he is currently deciding between an offer of a part in Ken Russell's next film, an adaptation of a Bram Stoker story, and a role in a big budget Hollywood film all about a time-travelling warlock.

"My concern for good writing is paramount," he says, which would presumably preclude involvement with either Russell or Hollywood, although at the moment Grant seems inclined in Tinseltown's favour.

"I would like to see how things work out there," he says, "but in fact talking about Hollywood at all leaves me feeling rather nonplussed.

"Getting *Withnail* was a dream. Hollywood I didn't even dream about."

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Master of class

CONCERT

LS/Knussen
Queen Elizabeth Hall

This concert was not planned as a memorial to Morton Feldman, who died last summer, but with a certain bitter irony it had that effect, since the two pieces by him were like water in the desert.

I refer not only to the invincibly mindless *Vermont Counterpoint* of Steve Reich, which Sebastian Bell had the thankless task of performing along with 10 ghost flautists on tape, but also to the unlovely new *Res sonorae* by Jo Kondo, and even to Takemitsu's *Water Ways*, whose prettiness seemed quite unnecessary between the tragic tranquilities of the Feldman works.

John Cage's Three Dances for two prepared pianos might have offered a balancing presence, being a big piece in the composer's Balinese jitterbug style; however, preparation of the piano inevitably constrains its voice, so that the two performers, John Constable and John Alley, sounded as if they were playing with feathers on small tin cans.

Of course, Feldman's music is also quiet, but it works at once to change one's scale of values: it is as if the whole world had been acoustically dampened. The two pieces were *Madame Press Died Last Week at Ninety* and *The Turfan Fragments*, titles paying homage to the composer's piano teacher and to his interest in oriental carpets, although they could easily have been exchanged, since all Feldman's music presumes a kind of death, and much of his later work has a rug-like stitching of regular events.

However, Feldman's minimalism is a far remove from Reich's. The events are not blindly the same but subtly different, each one hand-made and delicately coloured. The *Turfan Fragments*, in particular, was given a beautiful performance by the Sinfonietta under Oliver Knussen, revealing Feldman as a master of instrumentation, working with soft wind blends and with chords of string harmonics descended from that single bar of strained expectancy in *The Rite of Spring*.

With the weaving going on for half an hour, there was time to veer from fascination to rapture to irritation and finally to ashtonishment, then afterwards to respect, and regret.

Paul Griffiths

RPO/Temirkanov
Festival Hall

Have a critic's strictures actually worked for once? According to my colleague, the audience did not appear in very great numbers for the first of Yuri Temirkanov's three concerts with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in aid of the British Olympic Appeal. Amends were made to an extent on the second night, when the concluding Stravinsky-Diaghilev ballet was *The Rite of Spring*. Someone told me that Temirkanov had never conducted his work before, and he approached it with due caution, armed with a score and, *à la* Boulez, without the encumbrance of a baton.

Yet he did not compromise the instinctive if uneconomical athleticism of his style, even though the nature of his work, still a challenge for the most virtuoso orchestras, means that however far a conductor's hands might travel they are required above all else to beat a rigid beat. Fortunately that challenge was the first to be met. Indeed the performance contained an element of the careful, with some slowish speeds, paradoxically enabling the raw energy of the piece to erupt both more highly charged and more closely related to the earth than one senses in many a glossier performance.

Each concert also includes a popular romantic piano concerto, and one cannot help feeling a little smug that Schumann's example, given here by Dmitri Alexeev, was heard by more people than Tchaikovsky's first on Tuesday. Despite its popularity Schumann's Concerto remains a poetic gem where, to my ears at any rate, Tchaikovsky's expansive war horse has palled a little. Alexeev's was a rather brittle and brisk reading, obviously aiming to freshen the impact of the work by sharpening its edges. Yet he is no brute of a player, and always one was conscious of the underlying rich singing quality of his sound.

Stephen Pettitt

RECITAL

Olaf Bär
Wigmore Hall

Olaf Bär might have said to Hilary Finch on this page yesterday that Schubert's *Die schöne Müllerin* is more difficult for him than *Die Winterreise*. But the latter song-cycle offers the supreme challenge to the lieder performer because it requires two contradictory artistries to be presented simultaneously. The singer must convey utter sincerity, even a wild, unstable naïvety; without that the whole pathetic fable falls to pieces. Losing a girlfriend, after all, is not the end of the world for rational boys.

But if he maintains that naivety at a technical or colouristic level, the visionary web of Müller's imagery and Schubert's response is jeopardized. That rich tangle of natural symbolism — raging torrent beneath frozen surface, hot tears melting snow, lime-tree offering false consolation — must be delineated with the subtlest weapons in the singer's armoury.

The beauty of Olaf Bär's interpretation is that the basic quality of his voice, with its weight and darkness low down, its warm, husky head-tone, and its magnificent reserves of tenor-like brilliance, is exactly right for conveying unselfconsciously the honesty of this numbing, stumbling winter's journey. No matter how sophisticated or guileful his shading of phrases, that vocal timbre ensures that he never steps out of character.

He does take risks, however. The gliding legato over Schubert's arpeggios and up to some superb top notes is perhaps not so risky, given the remarkable control that this still-young baritone commands. But his interpretation of "Der Leiermann", deadpan and without a trace of vibrato or tonal variation, came precariously close to ending the cycle with the evening's first intonation doubts, and his huge emotional range within many other songs, moving from fey resignation to a stunning blaze of vocal anger (in "Wasserflut", for instance), would have severely disrupted a less immaculate technique.

Richard Morrison

Colouring the troops

GALLERIES

From Waterloo to the Somme
Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester.

Though we have ambiguous attitudes today towards the army and the very idea of making war, we tend to suppose that, the past being another country, things were different there. But if the show at the Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, until February 27, entitled *From Waterloo to the Somme: Images of the Army*, proves anything, it is that even in the 19th century and throughout the heyday of Empire, nothing to do with the army was all that simple.

It emerges that not until the Zulu war of 1879-80 were images of the army and the soldier virtually guaranteed to be favourable. Before that, of course, there were army heroes and glorious deeds to be recorded on canvas, but there were also very definitely army villains, and grave doubts expressed about the processes of recruiting and such.

One recurrent unfavourable image of the soldier which J.M.W. Hichberger, the organizer of the exhibition (which is accompanied by a very useful book by her, *Images of the Army*), has been unable to find very extensively represented is that of the vile seducer, loving and leaving the girls.

But the unscrupulous recruiting officer and his victims figure vividly, and it is not until Hugh Collins's "Searching for the Deserter" of 1868 that we can even feel some doubt as to whose side we are meant to be on: before that, it was all too well understood how justifiable desertion could be.

And we are reminded that Millais's "The Peace Concluded", which now shows apparently a hero from war returning, was originally designed, during the Crimean War, as an attack on the privileged soldier coming home on undeserved leave while others fought and died in the field.

There are also, of course, the *Boys' Own Paper* views of heroism putting down the ignorant tribesmen (with the occasional, unnamed loyal native making a marginal appearance from time to time), but again it is interesting to learn that Lady Butler's own husband disliked her depiction of Tel-el-Kebir as a triumph, regarding it as a grotesquely easy victory which did no credit to anybody. (This is presumably why she destroyed the picture after her husband's death.)



Off the battlefield: "The Black Brunswicker", by Millais, from the Whitworth collection

In between the two extremes there are some admirable paintings of battle, uncoloured by either excessive jingoism or undue querulousness. Lucy Kemp Welch's "In Sight", which concerns the dash on Ladysmith, is a splendid picture of horses in action, the battle being hardly more than a pretext. And earlier, Robert Gibb's "The Thin Red Line" contains passages of which no contemporary painter need have felt ashamed.

It is also a pleasure to see again such extraordinary works as John Byam Shaw's "Boer War 1900", an astonishing piece of belated Pre-Raphaelitism dating from 1901 in which every tiny detail in the picture of a sad lady standing by a brook tells its own story of bereavement with hallucinatory clarity.

It seems appropriate that the show ends with photographs of the Somme and the horrors of trench warfare. After that, an uncomplicatedly heroic image of war would be almost impossible to regain.

John Russell Taylor

Lover of the land

Hugh Buchanan
Francis Kyle Gallery

Hugh Buchanan (on show until 25 February) is a watercolourist in line with the landscape tradition. This exhibition is mainly devoted to interiors, but there is one monochrome painting, "The Weir", which pays tribute to Cotman, and a view of West Wycombe with a lowering sky that cannot fail to conjure up El Greco's "Toledo".

The artist's ability to show his love of the antique in bold compositions like "Back of Chair, Dining Room, Hall of Tarvit" explains why he has been commissioned to paint many of the great country houses.

Though he doesn't use washes to the extent of William Tillyer or Michael Heindorff, he has always delighted in rays of sun. Sometimes this leads him to lapse into "rose tints", but it also produces his most successful work like "Light Church Interior, Church of St Lawrence, West Wycombe", where intricate architectural details are swathed in light.

Alistair Hicks

The hijacking of a classic

THEATRE

Trinidad Sisters
Donmar Warehouse

It is June 1939 and Port of Spain is preparing for the coming European war. Nobody as yet has dug bunkers into the Savannah or mined the harbour for U-boats, but volunteers are enlisting and British officers are descending on the island. And the family of a lately deceased canon are patriotically holding parties for the boys in uniform in their big house, and looking around for something useful to do.

Such is the starting premise of Mustapha Matura's Chekhovian sequel to his *Playboy of the West Indies*; another intrepid colonial hijacking of a European classic. This time Matura even reverses the colonial relationship.

Chekhov's three sisters are in exile from their birthplace. Matura's are already at home, but longing to return to Cambridge where their daddy took his degree.

Also, where the expensively educated Prozorovs hold severely aloof from the common provincial bourgeoisie, their Trinidadian counterparts are "divided children" as defined in Derek Walcott's poem: eternally split between their native loyalties and the culture of the Mother Country.

Characteristically, you see Pauline Black's elegantly tailored Masha presenting her Cambridge self to the white British major; and reverting into zippy local speech when she is warding off her small-time bureaucrat husband (Okon Jones).

Inevitably, you spend much of the time noting the detailed changes to the original text: the introduction of the Trinidad Carnival for Chekhov's Shrovetide revels; the fact that nobody now snubs Nova (Natasha) for her tasteless costume; and the substitution of local imagery and speech patterns.

Some of the changes are no more than pointless substitutions. Others are extremely powerful: as where the refusal of Masha's husband to let her perform in the same concert with a steel band provokes the Doctor (Ram John Holder) into smashing the vase — a much more strongly motivated action than in Chekhov.

That episode strikes home partly because it expresses a mood of disgust towards the pursuit of petty social-climbing at a time of emergency.

Would that this mood had coloured the whole piece. But the respect with which Matura follows the line of his source material prevents this from happening.

Chekhov's play is about exile and inertia; the Prozorovs are defeated because they have no cause. Matura gives them a cause. When the Volunteers depart for the Italian invasion there is tumultuous flag-waving.

But no sooner are points of that kind established than they are swamped under the original narrative.

In Nicholas Kent's production, the result is a play no less divided than the characters; which holds together at the expense of never cutting very deeply.

The playing is extremely capable, but generalized; with the marked exceptions of St Clair (Solony), transformed by Chris Tajah from a failed dandy into a raw bellicose corporal, and Isabelle Lucas, an indestructible retainer conflated from Anfisa and Ferapont, fiercely patrolling the house in an ARP helmet with a club.

Irving Wardle

Award for conductor



The Italian conductor, Carlo Maria Giulini, pictured above, has just been awarded the first medal of the Amici di Verdi for his services in interpreting that composer's work. The presentation was made by the Minister for The Arts, Richard Luce. Giulini is currently in London recording *La traviata* for Deutsche Grammophon with Rosalind Plowright in the title role.

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CHESS

Unsung heroes

The qualification of Nigel Short and Jon Speelman for the quarter finals of the world championship is undoubtedly the greatest triumph ever achieved by English Grandmasters, even surpassing the silver medals gained by the English team in the 1984 and 1986 Olympics.

Nevertheless, in the atmosphere of euphoria surrounding our players' success one should not overlook the vital role carried out by two unsung heroes, International Master William Watson and Grandmaster John Nunn. Watson and Nunn acted as seconds respectively to Speelman and Short at the Saint John qualifying tournament. The job of a second is to help the player prepare devastating opening novelties for the struggle ahead, analyse adjourned games and provide general moral support. Of course, a second cannot directly intervene while a game is in progress on the stage.

Watson is a young player, still seeking his Grandmaster title. The experience he gains assisting Jon Speelman will stand him in good stead for the future. In contrast, John Nunn is already established as one of the world's leading Grandmasters, currently rated joint 14th in the world list. He is also one of the world's top theoreticians and Nigel Short's opening play has improved dramatically since Nunn started to help him.

It is an admirable and self-effacing act on Nunn's part to sacrifice his own playing opportunities to enhance the prospects of another English Grandmaster, albeit our most promising hope for the world title.

This week's game shows Nunn in sharp form from the recent Foreign and Colonial Tournament at Hastings:

White: Dr John Nunn; Black: Nigel Davies, Ruy Lopez. Foreign and Colonial International Tournament Hastings 1988.

1	e4	e5	2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	g6			

An archaic defence to the Lopez, one favoured by Smyslov, but essentially leading to a passive position for Black.

4	d4	exd4	5	Bg5	f6
6	Bh4	Bg7	7	0-0	Nge7

As might be expected, Nunn has chosen the most active and, indeed, the most efficacious system against Black's rather slow line.

8	Bc4	Na5	9	Qxd4	Nac6
10	Qd5	Nxc4	11	Qxc4	d6
12	Nc3	Bg4	13	Nd4	Nxd4
14	Qxd4	0-0	15	f4	

Remarkably, but perhaps typically, all this turns out to be opening preparation by Nunn worked out before the game. Herein one observes what a tower of strength he must be to Nigel Short in the aspect of opening analysis.

15	–	Qd7	16	h3	Be6
17	f5	gxf5	18	exf5	Bxf5
19	Nd5	Rae8	20	Bxf5	Re4

After this White's attack runs on oiled wheels. The critical variation demonstrated to me by John Nunn is 20 . . . c6 21 Rxf5 Qxf5 22 Bxg7 Qxd5 23 Qxd5+ cxd5 24 Bxf8 Kxf8 25 Kf2 Rc8 when 26 Rc1 maintains White's advantage.

21	Qc3	c6	22	Qg3	

The decisive move.

22	–	Bg6	23	Bxg7	Rxf1+
24	Rxf1	cxd5	25	Bb6	Re8
26	h4	Kh8	27	h5	Be4
28	Qc3+	Kg8	29	Qf6	

Black resigns.

He cannot possibly survive the concentration of forces around his king.

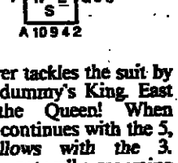
Raymond Keene

BRIDGE

Coup de grâce

The Grosvenor coup, or to be more precise the Grosvenor gambit, is a flamboyant defensive play needlessly offering a trick. Declarer, expecting rational defence, will never be able to profit from the hostage to fortune.

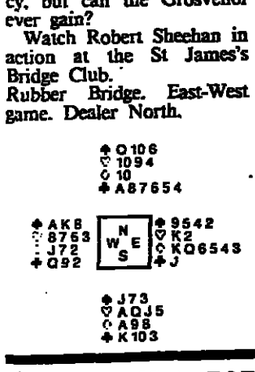
Here is an example:



Declarer tackles the suit by cashing dummy's King. East drops the Queen! When declarer continues with the 5, East follows with the 3. Declarer, naturally assuming that East started with Q3, plays the Ace, confidently expecting to drop West's Knave. It is an amusing diversion designed to establish a psychological ascendancy, but can the Grosvenor ever gain?

Watch Robert Sheehan in action at the St James's Bridge Club.

Rubber Bridge. East-West game. Dealer North.



W	N	E	S
Sheehan			
–	3♣ (1)	No	3NT
No	No	No	–

(1) Not a bid the textbooks would recommend.

Sheehan started with the ♣A and, in response to East's encouraging signal, continued with the ♣K and a third round. Declarer, matching his play to his bidding, immediately started on clubs, playing a club to his King and noting East's ♣J with interest. When declarer continued with the ♣10, Sheehan followed with the *nine of clubs* – the Grosvenor coup.

Declarer confidently played dummy's ♣A, and collapsed like a pricked balloon when East discarded a diamond.

On this occasion Sheehan's play was not an act of whimsical bravado, but a carefully calculated plan. If he had played the ♣Q on the ♣10 declarer would probably have realized that East's ♣J was almost certainly a singleton. In which case declarer would duck, later relying on the heart finesse to provide his *ninth trick*.

Sheehan's excellent defence exposes declarer's error in the early play. He should appreciate that he needs either the heart finesse plus five club tricks, or six club tricks. By taking the heart finesse at trick four, he will learn whether he can subsequently afford to duck a round of clubs.

Jeremy Flint

NEW PAPERBACKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

FICTION

Concertina, by M.J. Fitzgerald (Picador, £2.99) Modernist, adventurous, experimental, erotic novella by young woman born in New York, reared in Italy, and educated in England, hovering between the real and the imagined, history and memory

Ethan Frome, by Edith Wharton (Penguin Classics, £2.95) Classic 1911 novel of despair, forbidden emotion, and sexual undercurrents set in cold comfort rural New England.

The Colour of Rain, by Emma Tennant (Faber, £3.95) Comedy of manners and social criticism of the Sloanes and Hurrah Henries, young marrieds, in the early Sixties.

The House on Moon Lake, by Francesca Duranti, translated by Stephen Sartarelli (Flamingo, £3.50) Prize-winning literary novella of the obsessive quest by an impoverished translator for a lost German novel, with fiction gradually becoming fact.

NON-FICTION

English Love Poems, edited by John Betjeman & Geoffrey Taylor (Faber, £3.95) Many varied, original, and unfamiliar excellencies and surprises in our richest English art form.

Music in a New Found Land, by Wilfrid Mellers (Faber, £8.95) Important book on themes and developments in the history of American music, from jazz to Broadway musical.

Liverpool, A City that Dared to Fight, by Peter Taafe & Tony Mulhearn Fortress Books, £6.95) First publication of the *Militant* (and tendentious) version of the Liverpudlian *événements*.

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REVIEW



Elgar's neglected king

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Elgar. King Olaf: Cahill, Langridge, Rayner Cook, LPO and Choir/Handley. (EMI 7 47659 8. Two CDs

Bach. Christmas Oratorio: Donath, Lipovšek, Büchner, Holl, Leipzig Radio Choir, Dresden Staatskapelle/Schreier. (Philips 420 204-2. Three CDs

Mendelssohn. Elijah: Adam, Schreier, Ameling, Burmeister, Leipzig Radio Choir and Gewandhaus Orchestra/ Sawallisch. (Philips 420 106-2. Two CDs

It has taken a long time for Elgar's 1896 cantata *King Olaf* to receive its first recording, and even this had to be subsidized by members of the Elgar Society. Yet this story of the Scandinavian warrior saint (culled, in rather expurgated form, from Elgar's beloved Longfellow) is an important work. In its sophisticated handling of *leitmotif* and in its tenor writing it obviously functioned as a dress rehearsal for *Gerontius*; but it ranges far more boldly in mood and situation than the later oratorios.

Choral movements like the macabre feasting-song "The Wraith of Odin" (with its gothic-horror monotone refrain "Dead rides Sir Morten of Fogelsang" and its quasi-Verdi brass chromatics), the Conversion scene – serenely reminiscent of much in *The Kingdom* – and the final death scene with its *a cappella* coda, "As torrents in summer", are vintage Elgar, and should be better known.

Of course, his characterization of the three malicious women in Olaf's life is rudimentary by the standards of, say, Richard Strauss. But that diminishes the achievement only slightly.

Vernon Handley's interpretation is magnificently gutsy, especially orchestrally. Philip Langridge makes an ardent Olaf; Brian Rayner Cook's villainous growl as Ironbeard is certainly different.

The tenor Peter Schreier, one of the most astute Bach evangelists of our era, has increasingly commanded equal respect as a Bach conductor. This "East German" Christmas Oratorio, is in the liberal, humane and warm-blooded tradition of earlier German interpreters such as Karl Richter – liberal in the sense that the conductor is eclectic in his stylistic viewpoint.

Of course, in the international context such a "non-historical" approach now sounds highly controversial. In London, for instance, one could attend 12 days of Christmas Oratorios without hearing anything that remotely approached the rich, subjective expressivity that Schreier invests in the chorales. There are big dynamic contrasts and pronounced tempo variations from line to line, even some good, old-fashioned pauses.

That, and the full-throttle organ sound that accompanies the more dramatic recitatives, epitomizes this interpretation's rather unusual romanticism. One could also note a choral sound which (by the standards of British choirs) is rather soft-grained and unexplosive for all its polish and poise; a full, smooth style to the orchestral playing (even the marvellous solo trumpet, Ludwig Güttler, manages to make the great closing obbligato sound lyrical); and an almost theatrical responsiveness to the text.

I find all this most refreshing, especially as it is allied with some spruce and painstakingly prepared orchestral playing. Occasionally Schreier's pacing seems odd: the "pastoral" Sinfonia lurches rather heavily (perhaps those shepherds spent a little too long at the inn). But the only real disappointment is the solo singing – apart from Schreier's own, cultured contributions it rarely rises above the routine.

The voices of Schreier and the Leipzig Radio Choir (1968 vintage) also made a fine contribution to Wolfgang Sawallisch's celebrated recording of *Elijah*, now on CD for the first time. Sawallisch's bold speeds cut like a swathe through the cloying sentimentality which this oratorio tends to encourage. Here it sounds full of drama and fury, with the Gewandhaus Orchestra in admirably aggressive form, and the chorus well-drilled and alert. Theo Adam's Elijah could be more forceful when consigning the prophets of Baal to oblivion, but in the more lyrical episodes he is excellent.

Richard Morrison

Back with a bang

ROCK RECORDS

AC/DC: Blow Up Your Video (Atlantic WX144)

The critical establishment, which has been trying to arm-wrestle AC/DC into submission for the last decade, has finally given up and rolled over on to its back. Suddenly, the fact that the group's music is an unchanging, one-dimensional metal throwback to the Seventies, is no longer a liability. There are simply no complaints left to be voiced on the matter.

As one who never felt the need to rail against such cartoon-musical tendencies in the first place, it gives me pleasure to report that AC/DC has become the acceptable, possibly even the fashionable face of Eighties heavy rock.

The reasons why they have pulled through in such remarkably good shape are as plain to hear on *Blow Up Your Video* as they have been on nearly all the group's previous albums. For one thing, there is the perennial appeal of the intelligent guitar riff. On "Meanstreak" and "Two's Up", Angus and Malcolm Young demonstrate their unequalled capacity for cheerful, taut guitar motifs stretched across gaps wide enough to drive a bus through, the trick for which Free is best remembered.

Into this melée comes the death-defying sound of Brian Johnson's ragged vocal cords a screeching wail reminiscent more than ever of the much-maligned Dan McCafferty of Nazareth. The structure is underpinned throughout by an unflappable rhythm section that romps along unswervingly from the opening bars of "Heatseeker" to the closing wallop of "This Means War".

The formula is perfect in its single-minded simplicity. It conveys no emotional range beyond good-humoured laddishness; there are no variations in tempo other than slight tweaks from mid-paced fast to mid-paced slow; and ballads, love songs or anything else remotely vulnerable are most emphatically out.

While hardly a panacea, here is a musical good-time world where the complications of nuance either go unrecognized through ignorance or are banished with contempt. AC/DC continues zestfully to go where it has been many a time before, picking up additional passengers with each return visit.

David Sinclair

JAZZ RECORDS

The Riverside Jazz Sampler: (Riverside RIVM 001)
Wes Montgomery Trio: (Riverside RSLP 310)
Thelonious Monk & Gerry Mulligan: Mulligan Meets Monk (Riverside RSLP 247)
Joe Albany: The Right Combination (Riverside RLP 270)
Don Wilkerson: The Texas Twister (Riverside RSLP 332)

Treasures by the Riverside

Some people probably remember Riverside Records for *Sounds of Sebring* or Peter Ustinov's hilarious *Grand Prix of Gibraltar*; Bill Grauer, one of the label's two founders, was a motor-racing nut. His partner, Orrin Keepnews, loved modern jazz, and from the mid-Fifties to the mid-Sixties he developed a stable of artists to rival Blue Note, Prestige Contemporary and Impulse.

Now London's Ace Records, best known for re-issues of early rock 'n' roll, has begun a wholesale re-issue of the label's treasures; at £2.99, **The Riverside Jazz Sampler** offers a 55-minute browse through a dozen selections from the first batch. Naturally, several of the label's best known signings are represented, notably Cannonball Adderley and Sonny Rollins, with less familiar jewels from the likes of Johnny Griffin, Blue Mitchell and Coleman Hawkins.

Among Riverside's few real commercial successes could be counted the discovery of Wes Montgomery, who became the most influential of all jazz guitarists since Charlie Christian. The Wes Montgomery Trio represented his debut for the label, cut in 1959, and although he went on to make many distinguished



Discovery: Wes Montgomery

recordings before his untimely death in 1968, it has remained my favourite of all his works. A modest trio session featuring the otherwise unknown supporting team of organist Mel Rhyne and drummer Paul Parker, it announces itself with a classically pure version of "Round Midnight" before maintaining a relaxed after-hours atmosphere through a mixture of standards, originals and items by Ellington, Silver and Golson.

Thelonious Monk was Riverside's other great success, guided by Keepnews's sympathetic hand from the outer weirdness to the cover of *Time* magazine. His pairing with Gerry Mulligan was reckoned at the time to represent one of the producer's few mistakes, which makes **Mulligan Meets Monk** an admirably perverse choice in this series.

Two of the less obvious items are worth a qualified recommendation. The pianist Joe Albany and the tenor saxophonist Warne Marsh have both died in recent weeks: **The Right Combination**, recorded during a living-room rehearsal in Los Angeles in 1957, finds them at their most fluently creative. Don Wilkerson's **The Texas Twister** reminds us that this obscure musician played the eloquent tenor saxophone solo on Ray Charles's "Hallelujah, I Love Her So". Wilkerson could comfortably make the switch from rhythm 'n' blues to modern jazz. This 1960 quintet date finds him holding up well in first-division hard-bop company, including the pianist Barry Harris and the drummer Billy Higgins.

Richard Williams

Exploding the myths of war

PAPERBACKS

The Shrapnel Academy, by Fay Weldon (Coronet, £2.50)

Upstairs, at the Academy dedicated to the inventor of the exploding cannon ball, an ill-met group (representatives of white Western affluence) struggle to tolerate each other for the annual Wellington Lecture. Downstairs, seething hordes of Third-World servants are getting their revolutionary act together, led by a tyrannical African butler (an Idi Amin with sex appeal). A snowstorm isolates the Academy, and Fay Weldon, Champion of the Downtrodden – and of the exclamation mark – moves into full rhetorical swing, making the Academy's sparring factions into a funny and provocative allegory of contemporary views on war.

Clucking like a mother hen in a minefield, our bossy author has her usual peck at men (oppressors), a few more at outdated custom and class-consciousness (constrictors), and then goes bang (literally) on the futility of warfare. Playing Mars's advocate, she speaks up for the concepts of Glory, Victory, and Triumph. But in deceptively chatty digressions (how to grow good aspidistras, etc), we get swamped by documentary overkill on famous military campaigns: Gustavus Adolphus, Napoleon, their tactics, formations, and lethality indices. Shut up, you think, get on with the story, war is *boring*. Precisely her point. This is Fay Weldon on quirky top form: clever, relevant, always entertaining.

Mercier and Camier, by Samuel Becket (Picador, £2.95)

Written some two years before *Waiting for Godot*, this novel is clearly its percursor. For Mercier and Camier life is an absurd waiting game. The pair arrange to meet to go on a journey and keep missing each other; once met, they spend the time inanely disputing the appointed place and hour, the whereabouts of umbrella or raincoat, and talk catalogues of trivia.

Beckett's vision is of the purposelessness of human existence; action is minimal, humour is bleak and the prose obscure. Language is the only thing that lives, and verbal repartee comes fast and spurious. But for a reader without time or inclination to tackle a "text," it is sometimes difficult – despite summaries at the end of each chapter – to see what on earth is going on. Beckett buffs will alight upon this as a work of great profundity, but otherwise – if what you want is a story or credible characters – it is a profoundly boring read.

Celestial Navigation, by Anne Tyler (Pavanne, £2.95)

This quiet novel – a compassionate portrayal of an unlikely union between an agoraphobic (possibly semi-retarded) sculptor and a runaway wife – stirs more deeply than seems probable at the outset. Set over 14 years, the strangely inevitable way that Jeremy Pauling and Mary Tell drift together and (six children later) part, is narrated in heart-to-heart style by themselves and by onlooking gossips – oddball lodgers from their Baltimore boarding house.

Tyler's characters are self-contained, and rely on strong instinct to steer their own destinies. Perhaps this is literature's "celestial navigation": and pretty dodgy it is here. It is no surprise when this oddest of couples go off on divergent courses.

Tyler has an extraordinary ability to get inside her even more extraordinary narrators' minds; to know exactly how Jeremy, lost in creative self-absorption, can only experience quotidian life in the way that a faulty television screen can only flicker an image. And does Mary really understand



Polar plot: Thomas Keneally

Jeremy any better than anyone else? The novel leaves us wondering, long after we have put it down.

Victim of the Aurora, by Thomas Keneally (Sceptre, £3.50)

On the surface, this is a good old-fashioned whodunnit, and a treat for those who like their mysteries to thrill with psychological suspense rather than with clue-by-clue detection. It follows one man's memory of a murder committed during a South Polar expedition in 1910 and of his leader's bitter, disillusioning pursuit of justice.

What begins as a probe for the bottom of the world becomes a probe of the bottom of man's soul, because the victim – a slippery, blackmailing journalist – had one last trick up his thermal sleeve. His notebook slanders every carefully chosen gentleman explorer (physicists, geologists and even parasitologists spring to life as adulterers, cowards, homosexuals, cheats), giving them all a motive to kill, and a claustrophobic mutual suspicion.

But Keneally's novel is far more than a well-paced crime-buster (and it is difficult to put down): it subtly captures the rigid *mores* of the period – particularly its moral stuffiness. The expedition hut, a mere speck in the Antarctic void, represents a sample of Edwardian society taken far from madding civilization.

Sarah Edworthy

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

Kiss of life for death

The Victoria & Albert Museum is close to finding a patron for a proposed exhibition entitled "The Art of Death in England 1500-1800".

If the macabre deal is closed, the show will be organized by Julian Litten, the V & A's resident death art expert, who is also making a six-part TV series on the subject.

For a star exhibit, Litter is hoping to persuade the wardens of the Church of St James Garlickhythe in the City of London to lend him Crackyjacky, a mummified corpse discovered in a vestry cupboard in the late 18th century. Crackyjacky is thought to have sought refuge from the mob 100 years before and *slammed the door on himself* a little too well.

● **It took only a matter of days from the vote to televise Parliament, for Equity to receive its first application for membership from an MP. Equity general secretary Peter Plouviez tells me he plans not only to refuse Tory backbencher Timothy Kirkhope's application but demand that the part is recast so that Kirkhope is played by one of his unemployed members.**

That's progress

Professor Cyril Northcote Parkinson's famous law, formulated 30 years ago, has finally expanded to fill the stage available for its enactment. The Czechoslovakian state theatre company in Brno is performing a dramatization of *The Pursuit of Progress*, the



Mills and Parkinson

book in which Parkinson expounded his theory of bureaucratic waste. The 78-year-old professor declares himself delighted, if slighty bemused. After all, Walt Disney once told him there was no hope of a film adaptation unless there was a part in it for Hayley Mills. There wasn't.

● *Restaurateur Peter Langan was so taken with 22-year-old Alexandra Haynes's work at last year's Young Masters art show that he paid for her to spend the summer painting in California. Some of the resulting paintings of Sunset Boulevard* et al *now hang in his restaurant in Los Angeles. The rest can be seen at London's Solomon Gallery Street from later this month.*

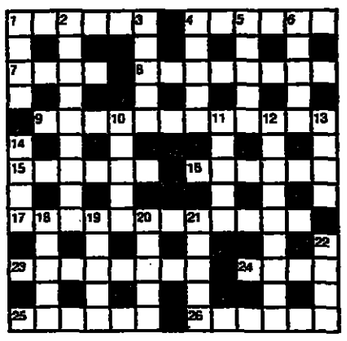
Missing masters

It looks as if British artists of the First World War will be outnumbered by their German adversaries at an *Armistice Festival exhibition* in Oxford later this year. Paintings by at least five German Expressionists have already been found for the exhibition of work by artists killed in the war, but English examples are proving hard to find. Tim Cross, the festival's director, says: "Many serving artists were removed from the front line to become official war artists." That said, about 50 Slade students did not return from the front and Cross wants us to search our attics.

Andrew Billen

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, February 18. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, February 20.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1488



ACROSS
1 US 5 cents (6)
4 Distant (3-3)
7 Rabbit fur (4)
8 Splendour (8)
9 Bat (12)
15 Entrust (6)
16 Flower male organ (6)
17 1916 Dublin insurrection (6,6)
23 Foolproof (4-4)
24 Chancy (4)
25 Deprived (6)
26 Put aside for now (6)

DOWN
1 Kind, friendly (4)
2 February 2 (9)
3 Not heavy (5)
4 Talent, aptitude (5)
5 Cowboy skills display (5)
6 Games rules infringements (5)
10 Twisted string (5)
11 Violet alcohol (5)
12 Careless (9)
13 Sea eagle (4)
14 Adolescent skin disease (4)
18 Humble (5)
19 Net dress fabric (5)
20 Traditional Sunday cooking (5)
21 Book-keeping entries (5)
22 Cremation heap (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1487

ACROSS: 1 Facing 4 Joyful 7 Yuan 8 Fowl pest 9 Althaea 11 Wakes 12 *Flight surgeon* 15 Mâcon 16 Baseuji 20 Fosse Way 21 Amah 22 Adrift 23 Solder

DOWN: 1 Fly half 2 Coast 3 Gaffe 4 Jowl 5 Freckle 6 Lotus 10 Ashen 11 Works 13 Incisor 14 Neither 15 Mafia 17 Abyss 18 Nomad 19 Swat

The winners of prize concise No 1482 are: Mr K.H. Rogers, Bower Road, Bournmouth, Dorset; Mrs D.H. Allam, Ivy Cottage, Harlaxton, Grantham, Lincs.

SOLUTION TO NO 1482 (last Saturday's prize concise)

ACROSS: 1 Vitric 4 Digest 7 Chew 8 Divisive 9 Hampton Court 15 Warmth 16 Saucer 17 Gustav Mahler 23 Turmeric 24 Okra 25 Sprite 26 Avidly

DOWN: 1 Vice 2 Thesaurus 3 Cadet 4 Divan 5 Gusto 6 Sever 10 Pitta 11 Coach 12 Unchecked 13 Term 14 Swig 18 Usurp 19 Tempi 20 Verve 21 Accra 22 Many

Name _____

Address _____

THE WEEK AHEAD



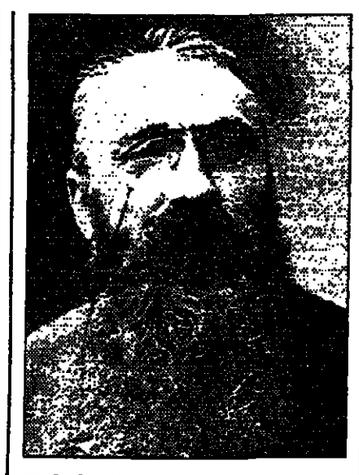
FILM

RED TAPE: Avtandil Makharadze plays the lynch-pin character in *Repentance* (PG) — a tragi-comic treatment of the Stalinist nightmare from the Georgian director Tenghiz Abuladze. Makharadze plays a vicious bureaucrat who rules his small town with a whim of iron; his clothes, moustache, and boots suggest all modern dictators rolled into one. The film, completed in 1982, spent several years on the shelf, but picked up a special prize at Cannes last year. Cannon Premiere (01-439 4470). From Friday.



CONCERTS

MUTTER MUSIC: Anne-Sophie Mutter, the precocious young German violinist, plays two concertos, Mozart's K 219 and Stravinsky's arrestingly original work of 1931, at the Festival Hall on Tuesday. Complementing these divergent pieces, the Philharmonia Orchestra offers Haydn's Symphony No 78, paired with Bartók's Music for Strings, Percussion and Celeste. The conductor of this exceptional programme is Paul Sacher. Royal Festival Hall (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). Tuesday, 7.30pm.



BOOKS

NEW DIMENSION: Rodin, by Frederic V. Grunfeld, the first big artistic and personal biography of the romantic sculptor for more than half a century, is out on Thursday (Hutchinson, £30). It publishes new material about Rodin's secretive life of struggle, against poverty, against the apathy of the conservative Salon and government ministries that denied him recognition. It reveals the tragedy of Rodin's long-suppressed affair with his pupil, Camille Claudel, and his complex relationships with Gwen John and Lacy Sackville.



ROCK

STILL SHAKING: Shakin' Stevens, who starts an extensive British tour this week, had been making an unremarkable living as a rock'n' roll revivalist for 10 years before sweeping to stardom at the start of the Eighties. His likeness to Elvis Presley won him the title role in Jack Good's 1978 stage show *Elvis*, while his chart success has been maintained by shrewd plundering of standards from the Fifties. Thursday, Grand, Wolverhampton (0902 714775); Friday, Royal Centre, Nottingham (0602 482626).



GALLERIES

BRUSH WITH FAME: David Bomberg (1890-1957), whose 1931 work The Red Hat is shown above, had a changeable career in which he moved from dynamic abstraction to a spirited landscape painting now influential among students. He never received real support during his lifetime, but this neglect is being redressed. Besides exhibitions of his work at three London galleries, Gillian Jason, Bernard Jacobson and Odette Gilbert, a major survey is on show at the Tate Gallery, London SW1 (01-821 1313) from Wednesday.



DANCE

LAST STEPS: Jennifer Penney dances the role made for her by Kenneth MacMillan in a revival of *La Fin du Jour* on Wednesday and Thursday. Although only 40, she says this will be her last season with the Royal Ballet before returning to her homeland, Canada. For some time she has restricted her appearances to a few ballets, so admirers will cherish her remaining performances between now and May — but she has one new part still to play, in Balanchine's *Bugaku* next month. Covent Garden (01-240 1066).

THEATRE

LONDON

CURTAINS: Stephen Bill's award-winning play, about a family gathering at an aged grandmother's birthday party, comes into the West End from Hampstead. With Annette Crosbie, Sheila Ballantine, Gwen Nelson, Alfred Lynch, Stella Moray, Cherith Mellor, Philip Bird and Ralph Nossek. Whitehall (01-930 7765). Previews from Mon. Opens Feb 22.

ON THE BLACK HILL: Made in Wales/Theatr Clwyd production about twin brother Welsh border hill farmers. Directed by Jamie Garven. Watermans Arts Centre, 40 High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (01-568 1176). Opens Tues. Until Mar 5.

OUR DAILY BREAD: Peter McGarry's play is about a young mother whose mistreatment of her baby leads to his being taken from her. Corner Theatre, Hen & Chickens pub., Highbury Corner, London N1 (01-226 3724). Opens Tues.

A PLACE WITH THE PIGS: Comedy drama by Athol Fugard about a Red Army deserter in hiding for 41 years. British première. With Jim Broadbent, directed by Fugard. Cottesloe, National Theatre (01-928 2252). Previews today, Mon. Opens Tues. In repertory.

THE RINK: John Kander and Fred Ebb musical, directed and choreographed by Paul Kerryson. Cast headed by Diane Langton and Josephine Blake. Cambridge Theatre (01-379 5299). Opens Wed.

OUT OF TOWN

BELFAST: Wuthering Heights: World première of John Boyd's dramatization of the Emily Brontë novel. Lyric Players' (0232 381081). Opens Wed.

GLASGOW: The Importance of Being Honest: Wildcat Company begin touring a musical farce about censorship. Crawfurd Theatre, Jordanhill (041 954 0000). Opens Wed.

GLASGOW: 'Tis Pity She's a Whore: Just ahead of the National Theatre, Philip Prowse revives John Ford's play about incestuous love. Citizens' (041 429 5561). Free preview Thurs. Opens Fri.

MANCHESTER: McAlpine's Fusilier: World première by Kevin Fegan. Mythic hero from Ulster's past seeks out his descendant, a Manchester navvy. Contact (061 273 5696). Opens Wed.

NOTTINGHAM: Habeas Corpus: Mobil Touring Theatre begin a tour with Alan Bennett comedy. Julian Glover, Bill Pertwee, Jane Freeman, Geraldine Newman, Duncan Preston and Su Elliott. Playhouse (0602 419419). Preview Wed. Opens Thurs.

SHEFFIELD: Plague of Innocence: New play by Noël Greig. A future in which Aids has led to worldwide repression. Touring to schools. Crucible Studio (0742 769922). Opens Mon.

SOUTHAMPTON: Journey's End: R C Sherriff's World War One classic, with Jason Connery and Nicky Henson. Nuffield (0703 671871). Opens Thurs.

WINDSOR: Lyric for a Tango: Susannah York and Rosalind Bennett, in a play by Esther Vilar (Argentina), adapted by Tudor Gates. British première, en route for the West End. Theatre Royal (0753 853888). Opens Tues.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

DELTIOLOGY
(b) The collection and study of picture postcards, from the Greek *deltion* a small writing tablet, and *-logos* word or study or science.

WAVESON
(a) In maritime law goods left floating after a shipwreck, perhaps originally from waive, but associated with wave.

DZIGGETAI
(c) The wild ass, *Equus hemionus*, of Central Asia; it looks mulish; from the Mongolian *dschiggetêi* long-eared.

SUB VOCE
(c) "Under the name", a direction to find a reference under a specified word or heading; also *sub verbo*.

CONCERTS

HOFFNUNG RETURNS: The second day of the Gerard Hoffnung Music Festival finds various celebrities conducting the Philharmonia Orchestra in such unlikely pieces as the *Leonora* Overture No 4, *The Famous Tay Whale*, and *Punkt Contrapunkt*. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). Today, 7.30pm.

TEMIRKANOV/RPO: Yuri Temirkanov conducts the RPO in Berlioz's *Carnaval Romain* Overture, Grieg's Piano Concerto (Dmitri Alexeev, soloist) and the original version of Stravinsky's *L'Oiseau de Feu*. Royal Festival Hall. Tomorrow, 3.15pm.

MAKSYMIUK/LPO: Jerzy Maksymiuk conducts the LPO in Haydn's Symphony No 79, Mozart's Piano Concerto K 456 (Kun Woo Paik, soloist), Stravinsky's Concerto in D and Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloé* Suites Nos 1 and 2. Royal Festival Hall. Mon, 7.30pm.

ALL MOZART: Mozart's Symphonies Nos 39 and 40 are heard from the ECO under Jeffrey Tate, as are his Flute Concerto No 2 (soloist, William Bennett) and Horn Concerto No 3 Frank Lloyd, soloist). Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (01-628 8795, cc 01-638 8891). Mon, 7.45pm.

HICKOX/COLS: The City of London Sinfonia is conducted by Richard Hickox in another concert of their French series, including Ravel's *Tombeau de Couperin*, Poulenc's Organ Concerto (soloist, Simon Preston) and Piano Concerto (Jean-Bernard Pommier, soloist). Then they are joined by the Westminster Singers for Fauré's Requiem. Royal Festival Hall. Thurs, 7.30pm.

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: Yuri Lyubimov's outstanding production of *Jenufa* is back at Covent Garden with Ashley Putnam and Eva Randova. Performances tonight, Tues and Fri at 7.30pm. Bill Bryden's challenging re-working of *Parsifal*, with Peter Seiffert and Waltraud Meier, can be seen in one final performance this time round on Mon at 6pm. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: Janice Cairns is a *Butterfly* to be reckoned with in Graham Vick's thoughtful split-level recycled Puccini production tonight, Wed and Fri at 7.30pm. The ever-popular Scarfe-designed *Orpheus in the Underworld*, now conducted by Paul Daniel, Thurs and Sat Feb 20 at 7.30pm. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161).

OPERA 80: This young travelling troupe present *Seraglio* tonight at the Strode Theatre, Street (0458 42646). They start the week at Exeter's Northcott Theatre (0392 54853) with *Carmen* (Kate McCarney in the title role) on Tues, Thurs and next Sat; and *Seraglio*, conducted by Stephen Barlow on Wed and Fri. All performances start at 7.30pm.

SCOTTISH OPERA: Richard Jones's new production of *Cosi fan tutte* next Sat; *The Pearl Fishers* tonight. Both performances start at 7.15pm. Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041-331 1234).

JAZZ

VON FREEMAN/CHICO FREEMAN: Father and son saxophonists join forces for what promises to be an outstanding residency. Ronnie Scott's Club, London W1 (01-439 0747). Mon-Sat.

KENNY WHEELER: The Canadian-born trumpeter goes on tour with an all-star quintet including Dave Holland on bass, guitarist John Abercrombie and pianist John Taylor. Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham (021 440 3838), Mon; Bluecoat Arts Centre, Liverpool (051 709 5297) Tues; Old Vic Tavern, Nottingham (0602 585127) Wed; Band On The Wall, Manchester (061 832 6625) Thurs; Colchester Arts Centre (0206 577301), Fri.

RADIO



● **The *Boy's Own Paper* gives way to Karl Marx as Alexei Sayle (above) tries to set up Britain's first Communist football club in *Lenin of the Rovers*, a new comedy series by Marcus Berkmann. Also appearing are the former TV commentator Kenneth Wolstenholme (as a commentator) and the late Ballard Berkeley, who plays the club treasurer. Radio 4, today, 11.30pm-midnight (repeated Wednesday, 7.45pm-8.15pm).**

KING STREET JUNIOR: Karl Howman (from *Brush Strokes*) joins the staff of the inner city school for a new series of Jim Eldridge's likeable comedy. Radio 4, Mon, 12.25-12.55pm.

WHOSE IS THE KINGDOM?: Elizabeth Spriggs and Timothy West star in *The Cross of Light*, the first of nine plays by John Arden and Margaretta D'Arcy about the Church and State under the Roman Empire. Radio 3, Fri, 8-9pm.

DANCE

ROYAL BALLET: This week's new programme (Wed, Thurs) includes Ashton's *Symphonic Variations* and Bintley's *The Sons of Horus* as well as *La Fin du Jour* (see top of page). Covent Garden (01-240 1066).

SADLER'S WELL ROYAL BALLET: Peter Wright's production of *Sleeping Beauty*, designed by Philip Prowse, is revived for a brief tour. Empire Liverpool (051 709 1555) Tues to next Sat.

SPRING LOADED: Six more small companies this week bring recent work to the Hackney Empire (tonight and tomorrow) and The Place. Full details: 01-387 0031.

SCOTTISH BALLET: After a week in Belfast, the company makes a rare visit to England with Peter Darrell's *Nutcracker*. New Theatre Hull (0482 20463). Tues to next Sat.

FILMS

DRAGNET (PG): Lavish attempt to parody the 1950s TV police series, with Dan Aykroyd and Tom Hanks. Directed by Tom Mankiewicz. Plaza (01-437 1234), from Fri.

A NIGHT ON THE TOWN (PG): A quiet night's babysitting ends in turmoil. Attractive comedy-adventure directed by Chris Columbus. Elizabeth Shue heads the young cast. Warner (01-439 0791), from Fri.

90 DAYS (15): Canadian comedy about two buddies in search of female bliss. Giles Walker directs. Minema (01-235 4225). From Fri.

PHOTOGRAPHY

FAMED: Stylish portraits of the rich and famous by young British photographer Michael Birt. Harris Museum and Art Gallery, Market Sq, Preston, Lancs (0772 58248). From today.

JULIA MARGARET CAMERON: Most famous of the Victorian amateurs, whose work embraced portraiture and tableau vivant. The Herschel album exhibited here includes many well-known pictures, some of Tennyson. National Museum of Film and Photography, Princes View, Bradford (0274 727488). From Tues.

ROCK

DEBBIE GIBSON: Sugary Madonna Xerox skipping up the chart with "Shake Your Love". Wed, Astoria, London WC2 (01-434 0403).

THE PROCLAIMERS: The "Letter From America" twins from Auchtermuchty. Fri, Hummingbird, Birmingham (021 236 4236).

GALLERIES

SULEYMAN THE MAGNIFICENT: An exhibition of costume, manuscripts, paintings and assorted treasures from the 16th-century Ottoman court. British Museum, London WC1 (01-636 1555). From Thurs.

MEMORY AND IMAGINATION: A major collection of work by contemporary artists such as Cy Twombly, Stephen McKenna and Ian Hamilton Finlay who explore classical themes in their work. Maclaurin Art Gallery, Alloway, Ayr (0292 43708). From today.

PATRICK HERON: Recent, colourful gouaches inspired by the artist's garden in Cornwall. Oxford Gallery, Oxford (0865 242731). From Mon.

WINIFRED NICHOLSON (1893-1981): Paintings, both boldly abstract and intimately figurative, from a varied 60-year career. Kettle's Yard, Cambridge (0223 352124). From today.

WALKS

NON CONFORMIST LONDON: meet today, Old Street tube, 2.30pm, £2.

NORTH WOOLWICH OLD STATION MUSEUM: meet today, Station Museum, 3pm, free.

SHERLOCK HOLMES: meet tomorrow, Baker Street tube, 2pm, £2.25.

A ROYAL VILLAGE: meet tomorrow, High Street Kensington tube, 11am, £2.25.

FILMS ON TV

THE PROUD VALLEY (1939): Paul Robeson (playing a stoker called David Goliath) helping Welsh miners to get their pit reopened. Channel 4, Thurs, 3-4.25pm.



● **In film after film Sir John Mills was the personification of the British stiff upper lip and never more so than in *Morning Departure* (1950), which is being shown to commemorate his 80th birthday on February 22. Sir John plays the commander of a submarine which hits a mine; also in the crew are such British cinema stalwarts as Richard Attenborough, Nigel Patrick and James Hayter. BBC1, 11.15pm-12.50am.**

LES JEUX INTERDITS (1952): René Clement's classic about the macabre games played by two French children during the Second World War. Channel 4, Thurs, 12.35-2.10am.

RACHEL, RACHEL (1968): Paul Newman directing his wife, Joanne Woodward, in an acute study of a spinster schoolteacher coping with middle age. BBC2, Fri, 11.45pm-1.30am.

TELEVISION

A PROSPECT OF RIVERS: The start of a gentle four-part celebration of life on and by British rivers with good anecdotes and superb camerawork. Channel 4, Mon, 9-10pm.

ALL ON A MARDI GRAS DAY: Four-hour live coverage of the three great Latin carnivals, in New Orleans, Trinidad and Rio de Janiero. BBC2, Tues, 8-10.45pm; BBC1, 10.45pm-12.10am.

A WHOLLY HEALTHY GLASGOW: Television version of Ian Heggie's adult comedy (currently on the London stage) about a crooked health club. BBC1, Tues, 9.30-10.45pm.

A KIND OF LIVING: Richard Griffiths and Frances de la Tour in Paul Makin's new sitcom about a male chauvinist schoolteacher, his wife and their new baby. ITV, Fri, 8-8.30pm.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

RSC AT THE BARBICAN: General booking from today for new productions of *The Jew of Malta* and *Cymbeline* from Stratford. Also for performances in March and April of *Twelfth Night* and première production of *Fashion* by Doug Lucie. Barbican, Silk St, London EC2 (01-638 4141/628 8795).

WINNIE: Première of new musical based on Churchill's career, set in Berlin of 1945, starring Robert Hardy. Opera House, Quay Street, Manchester (061 8317766). From April 21.

LAST CHANCE

RAKU BOWLS: Work by Henri Antonin Bourbon, using centuries-old Japanese method of "raku" to create unique bowls by hand. Barbican, Silk St, London EC2. (01-638 4141). Ends tomorrow.

Theatre: Tony Patrick; Films: Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Rock: David Sinclair; Jazz: Clive Davis; Dance: John Percival; Galleries: David Lee; Walks: Greta Carslaw; Photography: Mike Young; Television, Radio and Films on TV: Peter Waymark; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

Carried away at the RSC

The Royal Shakespeare Company's musical adaptation of the Stephen King horror story *Carrie* is one of the most unusual projects the company has undertaken. The RSC has done musicals before, but works like *Les Misérables* and *Kiss Me Kate* have had the sanction of a classic author in the background. Stephen King is a hugely popular novelist — he is said to be the most widely read author in the world — and cinemagoers will remember the Brian de Palma film of *Carrie* with Sissy Spacek.

Most of the money for *Carrie*, which is costing between $6 and $7 million, has been put up by the German impresario Friedrich Kurz. The RSC's contribution is a mere £350,000, but if the show does well it could help to ease the company's shaky finances.

The cast is half English and half American, thanks to a unique deal with English and American Equity set up by the RSC's boss Terry Hands, who is also directing the show. As for audiences, the Americans look to have a better chance of seeing *Carrie* than we do. After 25 performances in Stratford the show is transferring to Broadway, with a London production no more than a possibility.

'You could say *Carrie* is the first serious music drama since *West Side Story*'

***Carrie* has already drawn criticism from those who argue that the RSC should concern itself with high art and not pop culture. Charges of blatant commercialism have been flying about long before the show has had a chance to prove or disprove them. So what are the RSC's motives in taking on a Hollywood shocker? Hands is quick to defend Stephen King:**

"I consider him to be not just a good but a great writer. He's in the American tradition — the tradition of Steinbeck — which deals with small town life, rather than the life of the big cities. And he is extraordinarily good at getting inside the minds of children and adolescents."

***Carrie* is set in Hicksville, Maine, and concerns an adolescent girl with telekinetic powers — the ability to move things about by remote control. Played by Linzi Hateley, at 17 the RSC's youngest leading lady, Carrie is an ugly duckling, an outsider in the intensely competitive American high school world in which conformity is tyrant. Telekinesis, Hands points out, is a metaphor for difference: "It's rather like Cassandra's fatal gift of prophecy."**

This is not the only Greek tragic parallel Hands draws: "It has similarities with *Oedipus at Colonus* — the decision on whether to accept the tainted person into the community. Perhaps the most Greek thing about *Carrie* is the way the high school kids, played by dancers, act as a chorus. *Carrie* also has echoes of two resonant Western myths: the Cinderella story and Samson's self-destruction. And this is what gives the story part of its extraordinary appeal."

Another part of the appeal is likely to be the choreography, by Debbie Allen from the television series *Fame*.

***Carrie* is Cinderella with a vengeance. At the moment of becoming accepted, Carrie falls victim to a malicious act of sabotage, and she uses her powers to wreak a terrible revenge on the whole community. A musical without a happy ending? Terry Hands: "Yes, you could say this is the first serious music drama since *West Side Story*".**

Harry Eyres

Carrie previews from today at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 295623).



Pop art?: Terry Hands with Linzi Hateley, the star of *Carrie*

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Continued from facing page

SATURDAY

BBC1 WALES: 5.15pm Sports News Wales 5.20-5.45 Invasion SCOTLAND: As Grandstand except: 1.10pm-1.30 Badminton 3.55-4.40 Snooker. 5.15-5.45 Scottish News and sport 10.45 Friends 11.25-12.15am Snooker NORTHERN IRELAND: 4.55pm-5.05 Northern Ireland Results 5.15 Inside Ulster Newsline 5.20-5.45 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time 1.05am-1.10 News and weather ENGLAND: 5.15pm-5.20 London - sport; Plymouth - Spotlight Sport and News; all other regions — Regional news and sport

ANGLIA As London except-12.00noon America's Top Ten 12.30pm-1.00 Easy Street 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters.

BORDER As London except-12.00-1.00pm UFO 12.00midnight Worlds Beyond 12.30am Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except-1.00am-1.00pm Film: King Richard and the Crusades 12.00 Prisoner Cell Block H 12.55am Film: Billion Dollar Brain 2.55 Rock On Central 3.55 News, Jobfinder.

CHANNEL As London except-11.00am Roxy 11.30 Greatest American Hero 12.30pm-1.00 Hillary's Adventures 2.20-2.45 Rallycross 4.00am Company, Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except-12.00-12.30pm Greatest American Hero 12.55-1.00 Home Cookery Club 5.20-5.50 Blockbusters 12.30am Reflections, Closedown.

GRANADA As London except-11.00am-11.20 Streethawks 1.55 Cartoon 12.05pm-1.00 Street Hawk 2.15-2.45 ALF 12.00 Film: Rollover 2.00am America's Top 10 2.55 Film: Kremlin Letter 5.00-6.00 Formula One.

HTV WEST As London except-12.00noon ALF 12.30pm-1.00 America's Top 10 5.50-6.45 Film: Parent Trap II 11.10 Magnum 12.05am Darts 12.55 Book of Love 1.55 Sledge Hammer! 2.25 Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except-11.10pm-12.05am Club Rugby: Cardiff v Newport.

SCOTTISH As London except-11.00am Roxy 11.30 America's Top 10 12.00 Knight Rider 12.30pm-1.00 Terrahawks 5.20-5.50 Blockbusters 12.00 Late Call 12.05am Film: Silent Scream 12.55 Closedown.

TSW As London except-11.00am Roxy 11.30 The Man from UNCLE 12.25pm Gus Honeybun 12.30pm-1.00 South West Week 2.15-2.45 Gardens for All 5.05-5.10 Newsport 5.20-5.50 Blockbusters 11.10 Rugby Sports Special: Plymouth Albion v Saracens 11.40 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Wake Me When I'm Dead 12.05am Darts 12.45 Postscript, Closedown.

TVS As London except-11.00am Roxy 11.30 Greatest American Hero 12.30pm-1.00 Knight Rider 2.15-2.45 Rallycross 4.00am Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except-11.00am Roxy 11.30-1.00pm Film: Blondie on a Budget* 12.00 Grand Prix at Glenagles 12.30am Poetry of the People 12.40-6.00 Jobfinder.

ULSTER As London except-11.00am Roxy 11.30 Cartoon 11.40am-1.00 David Copperfield (animated version) 4.55-5.00 Sports Results 12.00 Newstime, Close

YORKSHIRE As London except-11.00am Roxy 11.30 Mr Merlin 12.00-1.00pm The Man From UNCLE 12.30am Film: The Oblong Box 2.10 Book of Love — an American's Top Ten Valentine 3.10 Jobfinder 4.10 Closedown.

S4C Starts:10.00am Years Ahead 10.45 What the Papers Say 11.00 Mewis on 4 11.30 Time to Remember* 12.00 Scotland's Story 12.30pm Baku 2.30 Film: Objective Burma* 5.00 Galapagos 6.00 Right to Reply 6.30 An Idea of Europe 7.00 World of Animation 7.15 Newyddion 7.30 Dathlu Dvorak 8.30 Awyr Las 9.35 Y Mass Chwarae 10.20 Golden Girls 10.50 Film: The Supergrass 12.40am Film: Kiss Me Deadly* 2.25 Closedown.

BBC1 WALES: 12.20am-12.25 News and weather SCOTLAND: 12.20pm-12.56 Landward 3.00 Snooker 4.30-5.00 Sporting Chance 10.00 Macgregor's Scotland 10.30 High Spirits 11.10 Network East 11.50 Snooker 1.00pm-1.05 News and weather NORTHERN IRELAND: 5.00pm-5.25 The Sunday Magazine 12.20am-12.25 News and weather

BBC2 WALES: Rugby Special Wales (Llanelli v Pontypool, Swansea v Neath)

ANGLIA As London except-9.25am-9.35 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm Link 1.15 Bioscope Bygones 1.30 News 1.30-2.00 Farming Diary.

BORDER As London except-9.25am-9.35 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm Farming Outlook 1.30 News 1.35 Cartoon 1.45-2.00 Link 11.30 Scrumdown 12.30am Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except-9.25am-9.35 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm News 1.05 Central Post 1.10 Link 1.30-2.00 Here and Now 5.00-6.00 Highway to Heaven 11.30 Prisoner Cell Block H 12.25am Donahue 1.20 Film: St Valentine's Day Massacre 2.05 Nina Simone 3.35 9 to 5 4.00-5.00 Jobfinder.

CHANNEL As London except-9.25am-9.35 Starting Point 1.00pm Link 1.15 Les Français Chez-nous 1.30-2.00 Farm Focus 2.00am David Bowie 2.30 Company, Closedown.

GRANADA As London except-9.25am-9.35 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm Member Only 1.05 This is Your Right 1.30 Asp Kasi Hak 1.35-2.00 Link 5.00-6.00 Highway to Heaven 11.30 Prisoner Cell Block H 12.25am Donahue 1.20 Film: St Valentine's Day Massacre 3.10 Meltdown 4.00-5.00 Chart Attack.

HTV WEST As London except-9.25am-9.35 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm News 1.05 West Country Focus 1.35 Cartoons 1.45-2.00 Link 5.00-6.00 Highway to Heaven 11.30 America's Top 10 12.00 Worlds Beyond 12.30am Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except-9.25am-9.35 Cartoon 11.00 Sunday Service 11.30-12.00 Farming Outlook 1.00pm Glen Michael Cavalcade 1.40 Link 2.00 Chapter and Verse 2.20 Film: The Last Electric Knight 3.20-4.30 Scottish Women 5.00-5.30 Scotsport 11.30 Late Call 11.35 Meltdown 12.35am Closedown.

TSW As London except-9.25am-9.35 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm Farming News 1.20 Tightlines 1.40-2.00 Link 11.30 Kojak 12.25am Sunday Review, Close

TVS As London except-9.25am-9.35 Cartoon 1.00pm News 1.05 Link 1.20 Action 1.30-2.00 Farm Focus 12.00 Cricket 12.30am-1.00 American Documentary 2.20 Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except-9.25am-9.35 Hello Sunday 1.00pm Farming Outlook 1.30 News 1.35 Cartoon 1.40-2.00 Link 5.00 Dock Factory 5.30-6.00 Northern Life 11.20 9 to 5 12.00 Northern Opera Sing 12.10am-6.00 Jobfinder.

ULSTER As London except-9.25am-9.35 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm Ask Anne 1.15 Link 1.30-2.00 Farming Ulster 11.30 Crazy Like a Fox 12.25am Sports Results 12.30 Newstime, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except-9.25am-9.35 Speedy and Daffy 1.00pm Cartoon 1.10 Link 1.25-2.00 Farming Diary 11.30 Scrumdown 12.25am-12.30 Five Minutes 1.00 Jobfinder 2.00 Closedown.

S4C Starts:9.00am Hafoc 10.00 World this Week 11.00 7 Days 11.30 Waltons 12.30pm Wine Programme 1.00 Yn Ol ei Droid 1.30 Dayn Iesu 2.00 Opera on 4: Wozzeck 3.50 The Specialist* 4.15 Hot House People 5.15 Business Programme 6.00 Vis-a-Vis 6.15 Faerie Tale Theatre 7.15 Wil Cwac Cwac 7.30 Newyddion 7.30 Rhaglen Hywel Gwynfryn 8.10 Pobol y Cwm 8.40 Dechrau Canu, Dechrau Canmol 9.10 Hel Straeon 9.40 Parciau Cenedlaethol Cymru 10.30 St Elsewhere 11.30 Film: The Stranger* 1.00am Closedown.

هكذا من الأصل

SATURDAY TELEVISION AND RADIO SUNDAY

Compiled by Peter Dear and Tony Patrick

● No one would put Charles Vidor among the great Hollywood directors and yet in a career of mainly honest toil he gave the cinema one enduring classic. So much for the *auteur* theory. The film is **Gilda** (BBC2, 4.20pm) and it contains probably the most famous, and certainly the most erotic, strip-tease in the history of the movies. And all that Rita Hayworth peels off, in the course of singing "Put the blame on Mame, Boys", is a long black glove. Rita is one, highly seductive, corner of a triangle that is completed by George Macready, splendidly evil as a Buenos Aires gambling king, and Glenn Ford as his protégé. Contemporary critics, such as the perceptive

CHOICE

Richard Winnington, found the plot incomprehensible and the morality objectionable. Neither of these things need worry us today. *Gilda* is a film of mood and atmosphere, studio-created by the camerawork and set design of fine Hollywood craftsmen, enhanced by Marion Parsonnet's crackling script and embellished by the glorious Rita. "There never was a woman like Gilda!", said the publicity, when the film appeared in 1946. There are not many films like *Gilda*, either.

Peter Waymark



Highly seductive: Rita Hayworth in Gilda (BBC2, 4.20pm)



Lynn Seymour in My Mama Done Told Me (C4, 9.50pm)

CHOICE

● An offering for St Valentine's Day, Elizabeth Taylor-Mead's film **My Mama Done Told Me** (Channel 4, 9.50pm) is a discourse by women who have loved probably unwisely and certainly too well. Torch songs are the popular form for this lament and we are offered a selection, performed by such vibrant songstresses as Peggy Lee, Edith Piaf and Nina Simone. We also have a throbbing, obsessive ballet on the theme, based on an American novel and danced by Lynn Seymour. But the core of the programme comprises interviews with 10 women, of various ages and nationalities, who have all been too deeply in love for their own good and still carry the emotional bruises. Their stories are chopped up and intercut with each other, which does not always make them easy to follow, though they are told with obvious sincerity and depth of feeling. If the programme has a fault, it is trying to cram too much in. The interviews would probably have been strong enough on their own. A slight puzzle is the inclusion of Joan of Arc, who may have had an obsessive love for her creator but is not generally known for more earthly passions.

P.W.

BBC1

6.45 Open University.
8.25 Saturday Starts Here with **Corners** (r). **8.40 Roland's Rat Race** **9.00 Kissyfur.**
9.30 Going Live! includes music from the Proclaimers **12.12 Weather.**
12.15 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is (subject to alteration): **12.20 Winter Olympics** preview; **12.30 Football Focus**; **1.05 News**; **1.10** and **3.55 Rugby League**: a preview and highlights of a Silk Cut Challenge Cup game; **1.25, 1.55** and **2.35 Racing from Newbury** and **Leopardstown**; **1.40 Boxing** featuring Roberto Duran; **2.10** and **3.20 Ice Hockey**: Heineken League action **3.50 Half-times**; **4.35 Rugby Union**; **4.40 Results** service.
5.05 News with Moira Stuart. Weather **5.15** Regional news/sport.
5.20 First Class. Inter-schools quiz between, today, All Saints, Huddersfield, and Eirias High, Colwyn Bay.
5.45 Jim'll Fix It. Among those for whom Jimmy Savile fixes it is a seven-year-old who joins Padstow Lifeboat crew. (Ceefax)
6.20 The Little and Large Show. The guests include strongman Ivan Kart and pop group ABC. (Ceefax)
6.55 Sorry! Mother tries to stop Timothy's interest in Jennifer (r). (Ceefax)
7.25 The Paul Daniels Magic Show with mime clown Bill Irwin and hand shadow expert Prasanna Rao. (Ceefax)
8.10 Bergerac. Jim's attempts to help Charlie causes a crisis in his career. (Ceefax)
9.05 News and sport. With Moira Stuart. Weather.
9.20 Cagney and Lacey. The two police officers investigate the theft of microchips from a local factory. (Ceefax)
10.10 Carrott Confidential. Jasper Carrott takes a wry look at life.
10.45 Summerfield (1977) starring Nick Tate and John Waters. Australian-made thriller about a schoolmaster who investigates the mysterious disappearance of his predecessor. Directed by Ken Hannam.
12.15am The Rockford Files. Jim becomes a murder suspect (r).
1.05 Weather.

BBC2

6.50 Open University. Until **2.45.**
2.50 Network East. This week's edition of the magazine series on Asian affairs includes reports on the fate of Tamil refugees in this country and on DNA genetic fingerprinting. Plus, a performance by contemporary dancer Farooq Choudry.
3.30 Twin Windsurfers and the Atlantic. A documentary about Frédéric Beauchêne and Thierry Caroni, two Frenchman who planned in 1981 to cross the North Atlantic from New York on a specially-built, 26ft-long twin windsurfer.
4.20 Film: Gilda (1946, b/w). (see Choice)
6.05 España Viva. A Spanish for beginners series introduced by Yolanda Vázquez (r).
6.30 The Week in the Lords presented by Christopher Jones
7.10 NewsView. Moira Stuart with today's news and sport; Richard Whitmore reviews the week's news in pictures with subtitles. Weather.
7.50 Olympic Grandstand. Live from Calgary, the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympics in the McMahon Stadium at the University of Calgary, described by Barry Davies.
9.45 Tutti Frutti. Comedy series about an ageing Scottish rock 'n' roll band on a 25th anniversary tour. Tonight, Bomba and Danny, on Wonderful Radio Buckie's 'phone-in, receive a shock when a young woman caller accuses Bomba of being her long-lost father. Starring Robbie Coltrane and Stuart McGugan (r). (Ceefax)
10.45 The Film Club. Screenwriter Paul Mayersberg introduces the last in the short season of Jean-Pierre Melville-directed films, **Second Breath** (1966, b/w) starring Lino Ventura. A thriller about a gangster who escapes from prison and makes his way to Marseilles. On the journey he kills two henchman of an underworld rival but his plans to exact revenge are sidetracked when he learns of a cargo of platinum that could possibly be hijacked. English subtitles. Ends at **1.15am.**

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am includes cartoons and comedy serials and at **9.20 News** and weather.
9.25 TT3. Children's entertainment **11.00 Terrahawks** (r). **11.30 Roxy — the Network Chart Show** (r). **12.00 The Fall Guy.** Adventures of a stuntman.
1.00 News 1.05 LWT News and weather followed by **Saint & Greavsie.** **1.35 Wrestling** from the Gala Hall, West Bromwich.
2.15 Nearest and Dearest. Vintage domestic comedy series starring Hylda Baker and Jimmy Jewel (r).
2.45 International Darts. The MFI World Pairs Championship.
4.45 Results Service.
5.00 News 5.05 LWT News and weather followed by **Walt Disney Presents.** The Wise Little Hen.
5.20 Connections. Quiz game.
5.50 The A-Team. The intrepid quartet help Mexican villagers who are being held by a war criminal wanted in 10 countries (r).
6.45 Catchphrase. Hi-tech quiz game presented by Roy Walker. (Oracle).
7.15 Film: Moonraker (1979) starring Roger Moore as James Bond, in this adventure investigating the disappearance of a joint US/British space shuttle and crossing the path of a madman hoping to dominate the earth by controlling poison-carrying bombs in space. Directed by Lewis Gilbert. (Oracle)
9.35 News and sport 9.50 LWT Weather.
9.55 Aspel & Company. Tonight's guests are Chuck Berry, Anita Dobson and David Frost.
10.40 The World According to Smith & Jones. Mel and Griff investigate the arts.
11.10 International Darts. The MFI World Pairs Championship.
12.00 Test Match Cricket. Highlights of the second day's play in the game between New Zealand and England at Christchurch.
12.30am Sledge Hammer! Spoof police series.
1.00 Night Network includes music from the Screaming Blue Messiahs.
4.00 Special Squad. Australian police series.
4.55 Ice Hockey. The US Olympic team play the Canadian Olympic team in Detroit. Ends at **6.00.**

CHANNEL 4

9.25 Old Country (r). **9.55 4 What it's Worth** (r). **10.25 The Writing on the Wall.** Part four (r). **11.35 Dancin' Days** (r). **12.35 Empress Wu.** Episode 16 (of 65).
1.05 Iceland Breakthrough. An award-winning documentary about a 12-man Icelandic expedition (r).
2.05 Film: Saratoga Trunk (1943, b/w) starring Gary Cooper and Ingrid Bergman. Romantic drama about a young woman who returns to her New Orleans roots to wreak revenge on those who humiliated her mother. Directed by Sam Wood.
4.35 Blue Pullman. A 1960 British Rail documentary introducing the public to the 90mph diesel Pullman trains.
5.05 Brookside Omnibus (r). (Oracle)
6.00 Right to Reply. Paul Foot argues that C4's series *The New Enlightenment* should have been called The New Greed
6.30 Scottish Eye. Jimmy Reid reports on the vast, untapped hydro-electricity source in the North of Scotland.
7.00 News summary and weather followed by **7 Days.** Sharan-Jeet Shan talks about how the Sikh faith helped her when she was left a one-parent family in a strange land. Plus, should the Church preach politics or exercise more influence over morality?
7.30 Royalty. Part three — the Royal Family on holiday (r).
8.30 Amen. Comedy series about a small inner-city Philadelphia church.
9.00 South Riding. Episode six of the 13-part story of life in a 1930s Yorkshire community (r). (Oracle)
10.00 Black Forest Clinic.
10.50 Film: The Supergrass (1985) starring Adrian Edmondson. Comedy about a man who invents a story about drug smuggling to impress his girlfriend, is overheard by the police and arrested. Directed by Peter Richardson.
12.40am Film: Kiss Me Deadly (1955, b/w) starring Ralph Meeker as Mike Hammer who gives a lift to a near-naked girl outside Los Angeles and is plunged into an investigation fraught with danger. Directed by Robert Aldrich. Ends at **2.35.**

Radio 3

On medium wave only: Until **5.05am.** Test Match Special: Second day of First Test between England and New Zealand in Christchurch
6.55 Weather
7.00 Morning Concert: Jacob arrangement of Tartini (Concertino: ECO under Tortelier); Vaughan Williams (Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus: Jacques Orchestra under Willcocks)
7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (contd): Suppé (Overture: Pique Dame: Montreal SO under Dutoit); Barber (A Hand of Bridge: Symphony of the Air under Golschmann); Mayerl (Ace of Diamonds, Ace of Hearts, The Joker — Suite: Four Aces: Eric Parkin, piano); Tchaikovsky (Je crains de lui parler de nuit: Bolshoi Theatre Orchestra under Ermler); Stravinsky (Ballet: Jeu de cartes: Cleveland Orchestra under the composer)
8.30 News
8.35 Consortium Classicum: Hummel (Partita in E flat); Beethoven (Rondino in E flat) and Mozart (Serenade in C minor — K 388)
9.15 The Week on 3: Simon Milner talks to performers next week on Radio 3
9.30 Saturday Review: Introduced by Paul Vaughan. Paul Griffiths reviews recent releases. Eric Fenby talks about his recording of Delius's An Arabesque. Plus John Deathridge on James Levine's Bayreuth recording of Parsifal
1.00 News
1.05 Taking Issue: Robert Hewison chairs a discussion on politics and the arts (r)
1.30 BBC Singers: Recital with London Brass and Thomas Trotter, organ, under John Poole includes W H Auden's text for Britten's Hymn to St Cecilia read by Steve Hodson (2.10)
3.00 From the Proms 87: Vienna PO with Peter Schmidl, under Leonard Bernstein perform Mozart (Clarinet Concerto K 622) and Mahler (Symphony No 5). Includes interval reading (3.30)
5.00 Jazz Record Requests: with Peter Clayton
5.45 Critics' Forum: Subjects under discussion are the BBC1 series Talking Pictures, the Tate Gallery's Douglas Cooper and Cubism exhibition, Zola's Nana at the Mermaid Theatre, and Michael Radford's film White Mischief. The discussion panel comprises Gilbert Adair, Bryan Robertson and Claire Tomalin
6.35 The Tippett String Quartets: Chilingirian String Quartet perform Haydn (Quartet in C, Op 33, No 3) and Tippett (Quartet No 4)
7.25 The Moscow Hotel: Denis Lill reads Eugene Dubnov's story about a Russian student's romance.
7.45 Elgar: Direct from the Barbican Hall. London SO, London Symphony Chorus under Hickox, with Felicity Palmer (mezzo-soprano), Philip Langridge (tenor) and Gwynne Howell (bass) perform Elgar (Oratorio: The Dream of Gerontius)
9.35 Man from Mann: Reflection on the Victorian schoolmaster and poet, Thomas Edward Brown. With John Bott (r)
10.20 Camden Jazz Festival: Carla Bley band recorded at last year's festival including her own compositions Light or Dark, Night Glo, The Girl Who Cried Champagne. Includes Carla Bley talking to Charles Fox about her musical career (10.50)
12.00 News
On medium wave only:-
10.30 pm until 5.05 am: Third day of the First Test, New Zealand v England in Christchurch.

Radio 4

LW (long wave) (s) stereo on FM
5.55 Shipping **6.00** News Briefing: Weather **6.10** Farming **6.50** Prayer **6.55** Weather **7.00** Today incl **7.00, 8.00** News **7.25** Sport **7.30, 8.30** News **7.40, 8.47** Today's Papers **7.45** In Perspective **7.55, 8.58** Weather **8.35** Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 News
9.05 Sport on 4: with Cliff Morgan
9.30 Breakaway: Susan Marling with the latest travel and holiday news **10.00** News; Loose Ends: hosted by Ned Sherrin
11.00 News; The Week in Westminster: Jim Naughtie of The Guardian presents a personal review of the week
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent
12.00 Money Box: with Vincent Duggleby
12.25 Hoax!: Cyril Fletcher, Clare Francis, and Pete Jones tell stories and the studio audience have to spot the lie. Hosted by Tim Brooke-Taylor (s) **12.55** Weather
1.00 News
1.10 Any Questions?: Joining Jonathan Dimbleby are Chris Patten, MP, John Prescott MP, Paddy Ashdown MP, and Observer columnist Katharine Whitehorn **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; Second Edition: Kevin Mulhearn with the best of Radio 4's magazine programmes
3.00 News; I Could Have Been King: by Brian Glanville, starring Martin Jarvis as C.B.Fry (s)
4.15 Letter From Eritrea: Jeremy Harding reports on the situation in war-torn Eritrea
4.30 Science Now: presented by Alun Lewis
5.00 Carvel in Conversation: (3) Robert Carvel talks to Denis Healey MP (r)
5.25 Week Ending: A satirical view of the week's news **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather **6.00** News, incl Sports Round-up
6.25 Citizens: Omnibus edition (s)
7.10 Stop The Week: with Robert Robinson (s)
7.45 Saturday-Night Theatre: The Boys from Hibernia by Mark Power (s)
9.00 Music In Mind: Richard Baker presents a selection of words and music (s)
9.50 Ten to Ten: A reading, a hymn, and reflection led by Eddie Neale (s)
9.58 Weather
10.00 News
10.15 The Saturday Feature: Where is My Home? 20 years after the Prague Spring, Czech exiles in London talk to Veronika Hyks about the difficulty of adapting to life in this country.
10.45 Writers on Blue Peter: A series of international short stories. (3) The Power of Her Magic by Lesley Reader
11.00 Fallen Arches: [new series] by Stephen Sheridan, staring Robert Lang and Annette Crosbie. (1) A Dinner Party (s) (r)
11.30 Lenin of the Rovers: [new series] Four part sitcom about a traditional British football club which suffers a Communist takeover, with Alexei Sayle as Ricky Lenin, Keith Allen as Terry Trotsky and Andrew McGlean as Stewie Stalin, commentator Kenneth Wolstenholme, and Maurice Colbourne as Ray of the Rovers (s)
12.00 News; Weather; Shipping
FM as above except: **1.55-2.00pm** Programme News **4.30-5.00** Options: **4.30** Community Matters [new series] **5.00** España Viva **5.30** L'Italia dal vivo (Second-Stage Italian)

BBC1

6.45 Open University. Until **8.50.**
8.55 Play School 9.15 Umbrella. Religious tales for children **9.30 This is the Day** from the home of a Belfast couple.
10.00 What on Earth. . ? (r). **10.25 Recovery.** How three small companies survived the slump (r).
10.50 Telejournal (r). **11.20 France actuelle.** A portrait of Grenoble (r). **11.45 España Viva.** Spanish for beginners, lesson 11 (r).
12.10 See Hear. For the hearing impaired **12.35 Farming.** A report from the NFU's annual meeting **12.58 Weather.**
1.00 This Week Next Week 2.00 EastEnders (r). (Ceefax)
3.00 Film: Knights of the Round Table (1953) starring Robert Taylor and Ava Gardner. King Arthur and Sir Lancelot battle with the evil Mordred. Directed by Richard Thorpe. **4.50 Cartoon.**
5.00 Fax. Viewers' questions answered.
5.25 Antiques Roadshow from Cardiff. (Ceefax)
6.10 Lifeline. The latest charity news. Plus, Johnny Morris appeals on behalf of the British Veterinary Association Animal Welfare Association.
6.20 News with Moira Stuart. Weather.
6.35 Songs of Praise with the cast of *The Archers* and Roger Royle, from an ancient barn near Tewkesbury. (Ceefax).
7.15 All Creatures Great and Small. James is asked to judge the dog section of the Darrowby Show. (Ceefax)
8.10 Whicker's World. The sixth of 10 films in which Alan Whicker meets Britons who have made their home in Australia. (Ceefax)
9.00 News with Moira Stuart. Weather.
9.15 That's Life! Consumer affairs series.
10.00 Life Without George. Comedy series starring Simon Cadell and Carol Royle (r).
10.30 Everyman: Who'd Marry a Vicar? introduced by Prunella Scales. Five wives of clergy talk about their lives.
11.10 Sporting Chance. Trevor McDonald takes up tennis; Stan Boardman tries scuba diving; and Brian Blessed continues with his archery (r).
11.40 Network East (r).
12.20am Weather.

BBC2

6.50 Open University. Until **1.05.**
1.10 Horizon: The Greenhouse Effect (r). (Ceefax)
2.00 Rugby Special. Highlights of the John Player Special Cup fourth round game between Leicester and Bath; and from Wales, Llanelli v Pontypool.
3.00 Music in Camera: A Concert for Mary Rose. Early 16th-century music performed in the Great Hall of Wingfield College, Suffolk, by Emily Van Evera, Nancy Hadden, Erin Headley, Andrew Lawrence-King and Paula Chateauneuf with members of the Early Dance Project (r).
3.40 Review. Mark Steyn comments on Chuck Berry's lyrics; Jonathan Meades surveys new restaurant architecture; and Pamela Hunter reviews Lady Susanna Walton's memoirs
4.10 The Money Programme, presented by Brian Widlake and Valerie Singleton, examines the relaunch of the *Guardian* newspaper.
4.55 Weather to Ski? Bernard Davey with reports from the resorts.
5.00 Olympic Grandstand. Live coverage of the men's downhill from Nakiska, Calgary. Introduced by David Vine.
7.45 Eyes on the Prize. The final programme of the series on America's civil rights years.
8.40 Crufts 88. Angela Rippon and Peter Purves report on the past four days of activity at Earls Court culminating in tonight's Supreme Champion award.
9.35 Did You See. . ? presented by Ludovic Kennedy. *Talking Pictures, Campaign* and *Miriam Stoppard's Health and Beauty Show* are reviewed by Russell Harty, John Hegarty of the advertising company Bartle, Bogle, Hegarty, and Leslie Kenton, a beauty and fitness expert.
10.15 Design Classics. The Aga cooker (r). (Ceefax)
10.40 Olympic Report introduced by Steve Rider. Ski jumping from the Olympic Park; highlights of the men's downhill; and news of the men's luge and ice hockey. Ends **12.20am.**

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am
8.30 Frost on Sunday with Republican presidential candidate Pat Robertson.
9.25 Wake Up London.
9.35 Fraggle Rock 10.00 TT3. 10.30 The Adventures of Black Beauty (r).
11.00 Morning Worship from Wesley Memorial Church, Bristol.
12.00 Weekend World. Will the privatization of electricity mean the end for Britain's nuclear power programme? **1.00 LWT News 1.05 Police 5**
1.10 Link with Judy Heuman, founder of the United States's Disabled People's Movement **1.30 The Smurfs** (r). **1.45 My Little Pony.**
2.00 Encounter: Buckhaven — the Great Adventure. The story of how St Michael's, Buckhaven, Fife, became the employer of 600 people.
2.30 The Big Match Live. Middlesbrough v Aston Villa
4.30 The Return of the Antelope.
5.00 Film: The Last Electric Knight (1986) starring Gil Gerard. A made-for-television tale of a New York detective who discovers a small Oriental boy on his doorstep. Directed by James Fargo.
6.00 Bullseye.
6.30 News and weather.
6.40 Highway. Sir Harry Secombe visits Harlow.
7.15 Surprise Surprise.
8.15 Wish Me Luck. Second World War drama serial. (Oracle)
9.15 News and weather
9.30 Small World. Drama serial about life and love in Academe. (Oracle)
10.30 The South Bank Show. Colin McCabe, head of production at the British Film Institute, gives this year's *South Bank Show* lecture.
11.30 DC Follies.
12.00 Wanted — Dead or Alive starring Steve McQueen. Followed by **News** headlines.
12.30am Test Match Cricket. New Zealand v England.
1.00 Night Network followed by **News** headlines.
2.30 Film: The World of Suzie Wong (1960) starring William Holden and Nancy Kwan. An American artist in Hong Kong becomes captivated by a pretty Chinese girl. Directed by Richard Quine.
5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends at **6.00.**

CHANNEL 4

9.25 Movie Mahal (colour and b/w). The second of two programmes on the Qawali.
10.00 The World This Week. Afghanistan; the financial crisis of the EEC; the US presidential race; and the drugs scandal in Panama are examined this week.
11.00 Pob's Programme 11.30 The Waltons 12.30 APB
1.30 Lost in Space (b/w). Episode two (of 29) of the vintage adventures of the Space Family Robinson.
2.30 The Far Pavilions. Part two and Ash and Princess Anjuli consummate their new-found love (r).
4.30 King's Breakfast. A Russian-made animated film.
4.40 Gallery. Art quiz presented by George Melly. This week Maggi Hambling and Frank Whitford are joined by Joan Bakewell and Vince Hill. The students are Claire-Marie Crighton and Rupert Thomas.
5.10 News summary and weather.
5.15 The Business Programme. Lord Blakenham of the *Financial Times* talks about the future of Pearson; and why American aircraft manufacturers believe the European funding of the Airbus is unfair.
6.00 Vis-á-Vis. A romance without dialogue.
6.15 Faerie Tale Theatre: The Princess and the Pea starring Tom Conti and Liza Minnelli.
7.15 What On Earth Is Going On? Mike Harding joins globe-trotters and package tours at Mount Everest base camp and finds tourism is destroying the environment. (Oracle)
8.15 The Stocks and Shares Show. The sixth of 12 game shows based on the workings of the Stock Exchange.
8.45 The Modern World: Ten Great Writers. Today's programme examines the works of Henrik Ibsen.
9.50 My Mama Done Told Me (see Choice).
10.50 Film: Noose (1948, b/w) starring Carole Landis and Derek Farr. A thriller about a newspaper reporter who, with the help of her fiancé and his friends, mounts a campaign against a ruthless black marketeer. Directed by Edmond T Greville. Ends at **12.40am.**

Radio 1

MW (medium wave). Stereo on FM (see below)
News on the half hour until **12.30pm,** then at **2.00, 3.30, 5.30, 7.20, 9.30, and 12.00** midnight.
6.00am Nicky Campbell **8.00** Peter Powell **10.00** Mike Read **1.00** Adrian Juste **2.00** The Stereo Sequence with Johnnie Walker: incl **2.30-3.30** Celluloid Rock **4.00-5.00** The New American Chart Show with Laura Gross **6.30-7.30** In Concert (The Stranglers) **7.30** Jeff Young **10.00-12.00** Mark Goodier **FM Stereo Radios 1 and 2: — 4.00am** As Radio 2 **1.00pm** As Radio 1 **7.30-4.00am** As Radio 2

Radio 2

MW (medium wave). Stereo on FM (see Radio 1)
News on the hour until **1.00pm,** then **3.00, 6.00, 7.00** and hourly from **10.00pm**
4.00am Dave Bussey **6.00** Graham Knight **8.05** David Jacobs **9.00** Sounds of the Sixties (Bill Martin) **10.00** Gerald Harper **1.00pm** Inman and Friends **1.30** Sport on 2 incl Cricket: The First Test between New Zealand and England from Auckland; Racing from Newbury, Rugby Union and Rugby League and **5.00** Sports Report **6.00** The Press Gang (Glyn Worsnip) **6.30** Juke-Box Saturday Night (Dave Dee) **7.00** Beat the Record (Keith Fordyce) **7.30** Steve Race Presents . . . **8.45** Brassman's Holiday (with the Fine Arts Brass Ensemble) **10.05** Martin Kelner **12.05am** Night Owls (Dave Gelly) **1.00** Ellis Hill **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 am Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 7.00 News 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours 7.30 From the Weeklies 7.45 Network UK 8.00 News 8.09 Reflections 8.15 A Jolly Good Show 9.00 News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 World Today 9.30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup 9.45 Personal View 10.00 News 10.01 Here's Humph! 10.15 Letter from America 10.30 People and Politics 11.00 News 11.09 News About Britain 11.15 Chain Reaction 11.30 Londres Midi 12.00 Radio Newsreel 12.15 Multitrack 3 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 News 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours 1.30 Network UK 1.45 Good Book 2.00 News 2.01 Album Time 2.30 Sportsworld 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Sportsworld 4.00 News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Sportsworld 5.00 News 5.01 Sportsworld 5.15 English by Radio 5.45 Londres Soir 6.30 Heute Aktuell 8.00 News 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours 8.30 Meridian 9.00 News 9.01 Hearn Matters 9.15 Capriccio 9.30 People and Politics 10.00 News 10.09 From Our Own Correspondent 10.25 Book Choice 10.30 News Ideas 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 Nature Notebook 11.30 Anything Goes 12.00 News 12.09 News About Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 Musical Masters of the Baroque 1.00 News 1.01 Play of the Week: Romeo and Juliet 2.00 News 2.09 Sunday Papers 2.15 I've Been Together Now for 70 Years 2.30 Album Time 3.00 News 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 From Our Own Correspondent 3.30 Back to Square One 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Six Four Eight 4.35 Financial News 4.45 Morgenmagazin (until 5.45)

Radio 3

6.55 Weather
7.00 A Recorder Virtuoso: Michala Petri in recordings of Vivaldi (Concerto da camera in G — RV 101); Telemann (Sonata in F); and Naudot (Concerto in G, Op 17 No 5)
7.35 Schnabel's Beethoven Concertos: the pianist in recordings of Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 5 in E flat, with the LSO under Sargent); Brahms (Rhapsody in G minor, Op 79 No 2) and Weber (Invitation to the Dance)
8.30 News
8.35 Your Concert Choice: Mozart (Thamos, King of Egypt: Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra under Harnoncourt); Bruch (Concerto, Op 88a: LSO under Dorati); Samuel Barber (Agnus Dei: Corydon Singers under Best); Balakirev (Symphonic Poem: In Bohemia: BRNO State PO under Danon) and Saint-Saëns (Symphony No 2 in A minor: Frankfurt RSO under Inbal)
10.30 Music Weekly: Roger Nichols discusses the performance history of Schumann's Violin Concerto; Roderick Swanston reviews Music Under Fascism; Richard Luckett considers Thomas Augustine Arne's music
11.15 BBC Symphony Orchestra under Gelmetti (part one): Rossini (Overture: Il Signor Bruschino); Rendine (Hermes); Rossini (Overture: The Italian Girl in Algiers)
11.45 Words
11.50 BBC SO (part two): Ravel (Le Tombeau de Couperin and Boléro); Debussy (Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune)
1.55 Writers Talking: Louise Erdrich and Michael Dorris (r)
2.20 Italian Music and Influence: Malcolm Binns plays Clementi (Sonata in G minor, Op 50 No 3); Stamford (Rhapsodies from Dante, No 1, Francesca, No 2, Beatrice); Dallapiccola (Quaderno musicale di Annalibera)
3.20 Northern Sinfonia: J C Bach (Sinfonia in E flat, Op 9 No 2); Lennox Berkeley (Dialogue for cello and chamber orchestra); and Mozart (Symphony No 40 in G minor K 550). Conducted by Wilfried Boettcher
4.20 Celebrity Recital: Peter Schreier (tenor) and Andras Schiff (piano) perform works by Schubert
5.20 Early String Quartets: Salomon String Quartet play Richter (Quartet in B flat, Op 1 No 2); Albrechtsberger (Quartet in G); Holzbauer (Quartet in E flat) and Haydn (Quartet in D, Op 1 No 3)
6.15 Desperately Seeking Superstrings: Paul Davies, Professor of Theoretical Physics at Newcastle University, examines the theory of superstrings
7.00 A Most Delightful Art: Mazzocchi's madrigals by Consort of Musicke
7.40 The Long Embrace: 20th century Irish love poems read by Anthony Jackson and Eva Stuart
8.00 Los Angeles PO under Michael Tilson Thomas: Henry Cowell (Synchrony); Allan Street (Montsalvat); Gershwin (Rhapsody No 2 for orchestra with piano); Morton Feldman (The Viola in My Life IV) and Lukas Foss (Time Cycle). Includes interval reading at **8.45**
9.40 Have Play, Will Travel: John Sessions reads from Simon Gray's diary
10.10 Budapest Wind Ensemble: Krommer (Partita in F, Op 57) with Kalman Berkes (clarinet) (r)
10.30 Choral Evensong: from St Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue, New York. With organist Gerre Hancock
11.25 Professore di Ballare: Dances by Giovanni Picchi played by Ton Koopman (harpsichord)
12.00 News until **12.05am**

Radio 1

MW (medium wave). Stereo on FM (see below)
News on the half-hour until **12.30pm** then at **3.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30** and **12.00** midnight.
6.00 Nicky Campbell **8.00** Peter Powell **10.00** Dave Lee Travis **1.00pm** Sunday Oldies (Mike Read) **3.00** Pop Of The Form **3.30** Backchat (Liz Kershaw and Ro Newton) **4.00** Chartbuster (Bruno Brookes) **5.00** Top 40 (Bruno Brookes) **7.00** Anne Nightingale Request Show **9.00** Andy Peebles Soul Train **11.00-12.00** The Ranking Miss P. FM Stereo Radios 1 and 2: **4.00am** As Radio 2 **5.00pm** As Radio 1 **12.00-4.00am** As Radio 2.

Radio 2

MW (medium wave) Stereo on FM (see Radio 1)
News on the hour (except **8.00pm**) **4.00** Dave Bussey **6.00** Graham Knight **7.30** Roger Royle **9.05** Melodies For You **11.00** Desmond Carrington **2.00pm** Benny Green **3.00** Alan Dell **4.00** Lorna Dallas — My Serenade **4.30** Sing Something Simple (Cliff Adams Singers) **5.00** Sunday Soapbox with Charlie Chester **7.00** The Good Human Guide **7.30** Operetta Nights (Nigel Douglas) **8.30** Sunday Half-Hour (from Bethel Baptist Church, Cardiff) **9.00** Your Hundred Best Tunes (Alan Keith) **10.05** Songs From The Shows **10.45** David Kay **11.00** Sounds of Jazz with Peter Clayton **1.00am** Ellis Hill **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 am Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 7.00 News 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours 7.30 From Our Own Correspondent 7.45 Book Choice 7.50 Wavequide 8.00 World News 8.09 Reflections 8.15 The Pleasure's Yours 9.00 News 9.09 Sunday Papers 9.15 Science in Action 9.45 A Hobby — or a Way of Life? 10.00 News 10.01 Short Story 10.15 Classical Record Review 10.30 Sunday Service 11.00 News 11.09 News About Britain 11.15 From Our Own Correspondent 11.30 Sunday Service 12.00 News 12.01 Play of the Week: Romeo and Juliet 1.00 News 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours 1.30 Sports Roundup 1.45 Sandi Jones Request Show (including at 2.00 News Summary) 2.30 Back to Square One 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 International Recital 4.00 News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Insurance Game 4.45 Letter from America 5.00 News 5.09 Reflections 5.15 English by Radio 5.45 Londres Soir 6.30 Heute Aktuell 8.00 News 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours 8.30 Sunday Half Hour 9.00 News 9.01 Story 9.15 The Pleasure's Yours 10.00 News 10.09 I've Been Together Now For 70 Years 10.25 Book Choice 10.30 Financial Review 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 Letter from America 11.30 Chemistry of Sex Appeal 12.00 News 12.09 News About Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 Religious Service 1.00 News 1.01 Soldier Boy 1.45 First Recordings of British Symphonies 2.00 News 2.09 Commentary 2.15 Pretzles' Choice 2.30 Science in Action 3.00 News 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 Good Books 3.30 Anything Goes 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Six Four Eight 4.35 Financial News 4.45 Morgenmagazin 5.45 Letter from America.

Radio 4

LW (long wave). (s) Stereo on FM.
5.55 Shipping **6.00** News; Weather **6.10** Prelude **6.30** News; Morning Has Broken **6.55** Weather
7.00 News **7.10** Sunday Papers **7.15** The Local Network: Neil Walker and David Clayton investigate schemes to halt the cliff and beach erosion
7.40 Sunday: religious news and views, incl **7.55** Weather **8.00** News **8.10** Sunday Papers
8.50 The Week's Good Cause: Rabbi Lionel Blue speaks on behalf of the Disabled Living Foundation **8.55** Weather
9.00 News **9.10** Sunday Papers
9.15 Letter From America by Alistair Cook
9.30 Morning Service from Dunlop Parish Church, Ayrshire
10.15 The Archers
11.15 News Stand
11.30 Pick Of The Week: with Margaret Howard (s)
12.15 Desert Island Discs: Michael Parkinson's guest is William David (s) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World This Weekend **1.55** Shipping
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time. Questions from Southport Gardening Society
2.30 Australia: Drama-documentary tracing Australia's history (s)
3.30 Origins: Malcolm Billings and Tim Tatton-Brown examine the origins of British cathedrals (5)
4.00 News; Our Green Survival Kit?: John Scotney talks to scientists and botanists engaged in medicinal plant research about the effects of modern synthetic drugs
4.47 Timpson's England: amusing, strange and curious facts and stories from around England
5.00 News; Down Your Way. Olympic gold medalist Mary Peters in Belfast **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 News **6.15** Feedback
6.30 International Assignment
7.00 News; The Maestro: Jeremy Siepmann takes a humorous look at the history of conducting (5) (s)
7.30 Fear On 4: horror and suspense plays (7): By the River, Fontainebleau by Stephen Gallagher
8.00 Bookshelf with Nigel Forde
8.30 Straight From The Heart: Roger McGough with extracts from love-letters of the famous, incl Napoleon and Josephine, and Juan and Eva Peron. Read by Hannah Gordon and Peter Egan
9.00 News; Vietnam Remembered: Roger Martin recalls some people he met and places he visited while in Vietnam between 1988 and 1970
9.15 Natural History Programme: with Fergus Keeling **9.59** Weather
10.00 News
10.15 The Year of Dreams: review of 1968, when the post-war generation challenged the power and ideas of their elders (4)
11.00 In Committee: report on the news from parliament's select committees
11.30 Seeds of Faith: God's Strugglers. John Rackley reflects on R S Thomas poetry (s)
12.00 News; Weather; Shipping **FM** as above except: **7.00-8.00am** Open University: **7.00** Why Study the State? **7.20** 17th-century England: Women **7.40** Education: Aims for Good Practice **.55-2.00pm** Programme News **4.00-6.00** Options: **4.00** American Authors: Sylvia

Fresh Tory challenge to Thatcher on secrets Bill

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

The Government and the Prime Minister will face a further challenge in Parliament this session over the Official Secrets Act with another Conservative backbench attempt to reform the notorious catch-all section 2.

A new secrets Bill will be introduced and given its first formal reading in the House of Lords next Tuesday by Lord Bethell, Conservative MEP for London North West and a former Government Whip.

It will be along the lines of the ill-fated Protection of Information Bill introduced in the Commons by Mr Richard Shepherd, Conservative MP for Aldridge Brownhills.

Mr Shepherd's Bill was defeated at second reading last month by only 37 votes after of the biggest revolts against Mrs Thatcher during her administration.

The Government upset many of its backbenchers by imposing a three-line whip against the Bill on a Friday to guarantee its defeat because of the Prime Minister's insistence that a backbench measure was the wrong vehicle for such a reform.

However, it will be much more difficult for ministers to block debate on Lord Bethell's Bill because of the lack of constraints in the House of Lords.

By convention, peers do not oppose a Bill at second reading and so it is virtually guaranteed a passage through the Upper House before going to the Commons, where government whips can kill it off.

Lord Bethell believes it is important for the House of Lords to examine the issues before Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, unveils his own White Paper in June.

He said: "There is a feeling among some people in all parties that it is a pity Richard Shepherd's Bill did not get a committee stage, because that would have enabled Parliament to put some input into the drafting of the Government's Bill. At the moment the Government's Bill is being drafted only by ministers and officials."

The House of Lords was a "uniquely qualified body" to give its view on the Bill.

"I am introducing the Bill at the request of Richard Shepherd. He and his fellow sponsors will be advising me. Also it was clear to Richard and others that a Bill would be introduced by a Labour or Liberal peer otherwise and it would be better if it was introduced by a Conservative peer."

In addition to Mr Shepherd's reforms, the Bill will state that lawful activities of the security services will be protected.

MI5 book shelved to spare official blushes

Continued from page 1

Professor Hinsley said that *Security and Counter Intelligence* dealt soley with MI5 operations in the Second World War. "No one has been allowed to see anything post-war," he said.

Mr Simkins said yesterday: "I don't know when the book is coming out, but it has been officially approved. You'll have to ask the Cabinet Office."

Sir John Bailey, the Treasury Solicitor, commented briefly to *The Times* yesterday: "I know of no unauthorized publication by Mr Simkins."

Mr Rupert Allason, Conservative MP for Torbay, and an author of several books on the intelligence services, using the pseudonym Nigel West, said yesterday he suspected that the Prime Minister had stopped publication of *Security and Counter Intelligence* because of the Wright affair.

The book by Mr Simkins was originally cleared by the Cabinet Office before the Wright affair blew up in the Government's face.

The book *Security and Counter Intelligence* deals in great details with the whole MI5 operation in the Second World War. Although other books have been written about this period of British intelligence, this is the first one that sets the record straight based on official papers.

It reveals the full extent of the network of "double cross" agents

Survivor volunteers to return to the flames

By Peter Davenport

One of the survivors of the Manchester airport disaster yesterday volunteered to sit on board another aircraft as it was set on fire to promote new safety measures.

Mr John Beardmore, aged 44, escaped with his wife and two sons from the burning British Airtours Boeing 737 in which 56 holidaymakers lost their lives in 1985.

He agreed yesterday to go on board a Trident two aircraft which was then set on fire in a re-enactment of the Manchester disaster to test a revolutionary on-board sprinkler system designed to make such fires more survivable.

The experiment, at the Civil Aviation Authority's Fire Service Training School at Teesside Airport, Cleveland, was organized by the company which has developed the system.

As he climbed down from the steps of the aircraft after the blaze had been extinguished and the new system hailed as a success, Mr Beardmore was clearly moved by his experience.

He said: "It was very frightening when the fire was first lit and brought back all the memories of that day.

"It is now 2½ years since the disaster and little has been done in terms of improving safety precautions for passengers. I agreed to take part today to put pressure on the authorities to do more.

"If this system had been in operation at Manchester there is no doubt that many more would have survived."

Work on developing the on-board sprinkler system, designed to give passengers three vital minutes until fire crews arrive, had been going on for 18 months before the disaster but then received fresh impetus and backing.

Representatives of 13 world airlines, eight aircraft manufacturers and various regulatory bodies watched yesterday's experiment.

The designers say it could be fitted to a new aircraft, such as a Boeing 737, for about £250,000 and could also be fitted to existing aircraft.



Mr Beardmore and the two burning aircraft from which he escaped: The Trident two at Teesside (top) and the Boeing 737 at Manchester in 1985.

Haig drops out with Bush attack

Continued from page 1

tions and tolerance for the diversity of America.

"In my judgement, Senator Robert Dole is the candidate best able to lead our country into the 90s." Only Mr Dole understood the crucial challenges and how America could meet them. He was the only man who could tackle the deficit without resorting to short-term gimmicks and destructive tax increases.

Senator Dole, who appeared on the platform, expressed warm thanks to the general, saying he had contributed crucial foreign policy expertise.

General Haig is the first casualty of the 1988 campaign, and reduces the number of contestants in the Republican camp to five.

Meanwhile, the gloves are coming off also on the Democratic side. Senator Paul Simon, frankly admitting his campaign is finished if he does not beat the congressman, Mr Richard Gephardt, for second place after Governor Michael Dukakis, has begun to run televison advertisements sharply attacking Mr Gephardt. He said the Gephardt congressional record belied his stands on issues such as social security, the MX missile, nuclear power.

An angry Mr Gephardt has threatened retaliation, and has had to borrow heavily to counter him with a fresh advertising blitz that protrays the Illinois Senator as "fuddy-duddy" and out of touch.

Freed fans remain in Belgian jail

Continued from page 1

Like the five other supporters already freed and back in Britain, the 18 would have to return to Belgium for the trial or face extradition proceedings.

However, before any of the group could be freed from the special wing of the Louvain jail near Brussels, where they have been housed since their extradition from the UK in early September, the state prosecutor lodged an appeal against their release.

A hearing on that appeal will be held within the next two weeks and, in the meanwhile, the fans will have to remain in prison, along with the two others whose lawyers have yet to seek their release.

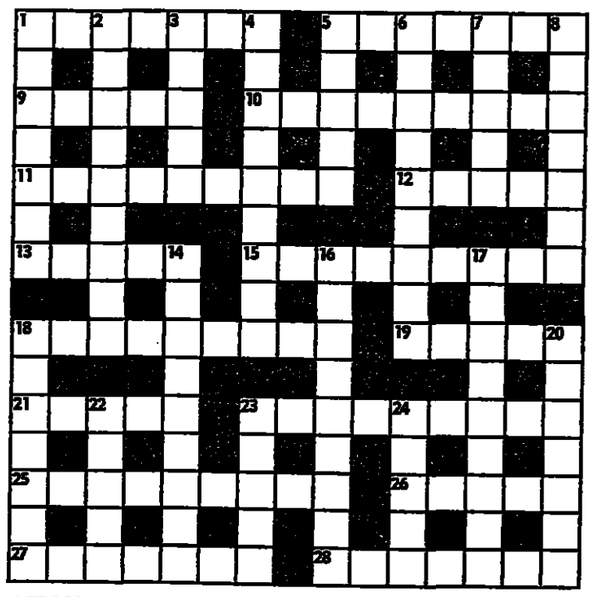
"Even if the decision to free them is upheld, it is by no means certain that the families will be able to raise the substantial amounts of bail money required by the courts," Sir Harry said.

"This could not happen in a British court. A judge in chambers would or would not set bail and that would be the end of the matter."

It took the Belgian authorities 12 months to negotiate the extradition of the 25 from Britain to face manslaughter and other charges arising out of the riot at the 1985 European Cup final between Liverpool and Juventus, which resulted in 39 deaths.

Families of the men still held are likely to meet lawyers over the next few days to clarify the situation

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,591



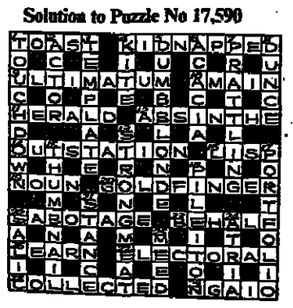
ACROSS

1 Supporter of a hanger-on, it's plain, needs to be endlessly wealthy (7).
5 Set in lake, on the bed (7).
9 Secured work — embarrassed about it (5).
10 May it hold together extract from dissertation? (5-4).
11 Physicist's team with sound advantage in the scrum? (9).
12 Material progress suddenly made, we hear (5).
13 Lowest point in N. Adirondacks (5).
15 Charges from Friendly Society (9).
18 Compulsion to fire one man, or pay badly (9).
19 Bitch's principle? (5).
21 Huge tin of tongue forgotten (5).
23 Cobbler's farewell ceremony? (4,5).
25 No exclusive way of communicating 19 (5,4).
26 About to help name a girl (5).
27 Take once more the road to Tyre (7).
28 After end of visit, lock up the abbey (7).

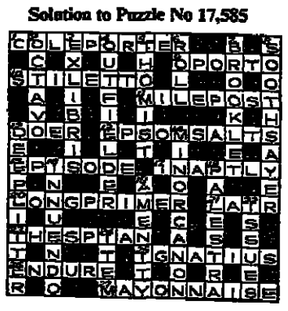
DOWN

1 The stream outside used to be a nuisance (7).
2 Northerner concealed proposal in two foreign articles (9).
3 More than one spoke of operating limits (5).
4 Island with food for goat (9).
5 Police chase ending in the wood (5).
6 Beat long-established minimum value (9).
7 Chief mourner accepts a pound (5).
8 Train to be articulate (7).
14 Part with money, curious to discover the way in which these clues are set (5,4).
16 RIP to a rag-doll, we hear (9).
17 When it's dark the moon's plain; or is that a fantasy? (9).
18 Correct to hold son is to succeed (7).
20 Refuse to vote, putting Jack on the spot (7).
22 Apprentice leaves the wine; it shows there's something lacking (5).
23 One fat round Scotsman (5).
24 He chiselled the staff, when elected (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 17,590



Solution to Puzzle No 17,585



WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Phillip Howard

DELTIOLOGY
a. An Apocryphal Gospel
b. The study of postcards
c. Riverine science

WAVESON
a. Flotsam
b. A waiver in Scots law
c. A wavelength frequency

DZIGGETAI
a. A curved dagger
b. Afghan knickers
c. A wild ass

SUB VOCE
a. Under oath
b. Sotto voce
c. Look here

Answers page 22, column 1

A prize of The Times Concise Atlas of the World *will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.*

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mrs E Fearn, Winkers Lane, Chalfont St Peter, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire; Mr J Lindsay, Neilson St, Falkirk, Stirlingshire; Mrs G Ottoway, Bishopstone Rd, Seaford, E Sussex; Rev M J Peel, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, Beds; Mr B Scott, Revell Rd, Downham Market, Norfolk.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Concise crossword, page 21

WEATHER

Wet and windy weather is likely for all areas today with sleet or snow over hills, and drifting in the north. Many coastal districts will experience gale or severe gale force southerlies. Brighter, showery conditions will spread to most districts during the afternoon. Outlook: Bright and cold over Scotland and Northern Ireland, cloudier over England with rain or drizzle in south and east.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; si=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	11	52	r	Madrid	10	50	s
Alcrotiri	16	61	r	Majorca	14	57	s
Alex'dria	17	63	c	Malaga	16	61	s
Algiers	17	63	c	Malta	15	59	c
Amst'dm	6	43	f	Melb'rne	25	77	s
Athens	16	61	s	Miami*	28	73	s
Barbads*	30	86	c	Milan	6	43	c
Barcelna	14	57	s	Montreal*	-13	9	s
Belgrade	11	52	s	Moscow	-10	14	sn
Berlin	5	41	f	Munich	4	39	c
Bermuda*	21	70	f	Nairobi	23	73	f
Biarritz	10	50	f	Naples	13	55	c
Borde'x	9	48	c	N Delhi	21	70	f
Brussels	5	41	s	N York*	1	34	c
Budapst	4	39	f	Nice	14	57	s
B Aires*	26	79	f	Oslo	-2	28	fg
Cairo	20	68	s	Paris	6	43	f
Cape Tn	29	84	s	Peking	9	48	s
C'blanca	16	61	s	Perth	31	88	s
Chicago*	7	19	sn	Prague	2	36	f
Ch'church	20	68	c	Reykjvik	-5	23	c
Cologne	3	37	c	Rhodes	12	54	r
C'phagn	4	39	f	Rio de J	24	75	r
Corfu	14	57	s	Riyadh	20	68	s
Dublin	4	39	s	Rome	13	55	f
Dubrovnik	12	54	c	Salzburg	5	41	c
Faro	15	59	s	S Frisco*	17	63	s
Florence	11	52	c	Santiago*	24	75	s
Frankfurt	3	37	r	S Paulo*	21	70	f
Funchal	15	59	c	Seoul	1	34	f
Geneva	2	36	sn	Sing'por	30	86	s
Gibraltar	16	61	s	St'kholm	4	39	c
Helsinki	0	32	sn	Strasb'rg	4	39	r
Hong K	16	61	c	Sydney	23	73	c
Innsbruck	4	39	f	Tangier	15	59	f
Istanbul	11	52	f	Tel aviv	15	59	c
Jeddah	28	82	s	Tenerife	18	64	c
Jo'burg*	15	59	r	Tokyo	5	41	f
Karachi	24	75	f	Toronto*	-9	16	sn
L Palmas	20	68	s	Tunis	19	66	f
Le Tquet	6	43	f	Valencia	16	61	s
Lisbon	13	55	s	Vanc'ver*	9	48	c
Locarno	4	39	c	Venice	8	43	r
L Angels*	24	75	s	Vienna	6	43	f
Luxembg	2	36	c	Warsaw	6	43	s

* denotes Thursday's figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	8.4	-	5	41	sunny
Bridlington	7.4	-	7	45	sunny
Hunstanton	6.8	-	5	41	sunny
Cromer	8.6	-	6	43	sunny
Lowestoft	7.1	-	6	43	sunny
Clacton	8.6	-	7	45	sunny
Southend	8.4	-	8	46	sunny
Folkestone	9.4	-	8	46	sunny
Hastings	9.1	-	8	48	sunny
Eastbourne	8.2	-	7	45	sunny
Brighton	6.9	-	7	45	sunny
Worthing	8.0	.01	8	46	sunny
Bognor R	7.3	-	9	48	sunny
Sandown	8.6	-	9	48	sunny
Bournemth	7.5	-	10	50	sunny
Swanage	8.7	-	9	48	sunny
Exmouth	8.2	-	8	46	sunny
Torquay	8.1	-	9	48	sunny
Penzance	7.8	-	9	48	sunny
Scilly Isles	4.9	.05	9	48	sunny
Guernsey	7.5	.06	9	48	sunny
Ilfracombe	*	*	8	46	sunny
B'pool Airpt	7.8	.06	6	43	shower
Morecambe	5.8	-	5	41	sunny
Douglas	*	-	8	43	sunny
Bristol (Cstl)	8.6	-	9	48	sunny
Carlisle	6.3	-	5	41	bright
London	8.6	-	9	48	sunny
Manchester	5.1	.06	6	43	hail
N'cstl-n-Tyne	7.9	-	5	41	sunny
Nottingham	6.3	-	6	43	sunny
Anglesey	7.3	-	7	45	sunny
Cardiff (Cstl)	8.7	-	7	45	sunny
Cobryn Bay	*	.03	*	*	sunny
Tenby	8.5	-	8	46	sunny
Aberdeen	7.1	-	4	39	bright
Aviemore	3.8	-	1	34	snow
Edinburgh	5.4	-	5	41	sunny
Eskdalemuir	1.5	.05	3	37	snow
Glasgow	4.0	.15	4	39	snow
Kinloss	6.6	-	4	39	sunny
Lerwick	0.7	.07	3	37	hail
Prestwick	1.8	.19	5	41	snow
Stornoway	4.2	.11	5	41	bright
Tiree	5.1	.09	6	43	snow
Wick	6.4	-	4	39	sunny

* Denotes figures not available

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TOMORROW	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	8.44	5.6	9.36	5.6	London Bridge	10.17	5.7	11.01	5.9
Aberdeen	9.01	3.3	9.42	3.4	Aberdeen	10.14	3.5	10.58	3.7
Avonmouth	1.48	9.5	2.40	9.9	Avonmouth	3.32	10.1	4.09	10.5
Belfast	6.29	2.8	7.19	2.9	Belfast	7.52	2.9	8.29	3.0
Cardiff	1.34	9.0	2.25	9.3	Cardiff	3.17	9.4	3.54	9.8
Devonport	12.21	4.3	1.06	4.3	Devonport	2.05	4.4	2.58	4.4
Dover	5.57	5.2	6.58	5.1	Dover	7.34	5.3	8.34	5.4
Falmouth	—	—	12.35	4.1	Falmouth	1.35	4.2	2.28	4.2
Glasgow	7.35	4.2	8.18	4.3	Glasgow	9.21	4.2	9.53	4.3
Harwich	6.48	3.2	7.34	3.1	Harwich	8.13	3.2	8.53	3.2
Holyhead	5.57	4.4	6.39	4.4	Holyhead	7.19	4.6	7.59	4.7
Hull	1.07	5.8	2.02	5.7	Hull	3.50	5.9	3.28	5.9
Ilfracombe	12.48	6.8	1.33	6.8	Ilfracombe	2.27	7.0	3.10	7.3
Leith	10.12	4.3	11.01	4.4	Leith	11.34	4.5	—	—
Liverpool	6.34	7.3	7.16	7.3	Liverpool	7.55	7.8	8.37	7.8
Lowestoft	4.49	2.1	5.34	2.0	Lowestoft	6.04	2.1	6.32	2.1
Margate	6.57	3.8	7.57	3.9	Margate	8.32	3.8	8.17	4.0
Milford Haven	1.09	5.2	1.54	5.2	Milford Haven	2.43	5.4	3.25	5.5
Newquay	12.09	5.3	12.53	5.3	Newquay	1.41	5.5	2.22	5.6
Oban	1.25	2.9	2.01	2.9	Oban	3.07	3.1	3.45	3.1
Penzance	—	—	12.22	4.3	Penzance	1.17	4.4	2.05	4.4
Portland	1.13	1.3	2.08	1.3	Portland	3.04	1.5	3.58	1.4
Portsmouth	6.35	3.7	7.32	3.7	Portsmouth	8.01	3.9	8.54	3.9
Shoreham	6.20	4.8	7.15	4.8	Shoreham	7.50	5.1	8.39	5.5
Southampton	6.20	3.8	7.19	3.7	Southampton	7.41	3.8	8.36	3.9
Swansea	1.20	7.2	2.01	7.2	Swansea	2.54	7.5	3.31	7.8
Tees	11.39	4.2	—	—	Tees	12.19	4.9	12.52	4.5
W'ton-on-Nze	6.42	3.4	7.26	3.3	W'ton-on-Nze	8.11	3.4	8.51	3.4

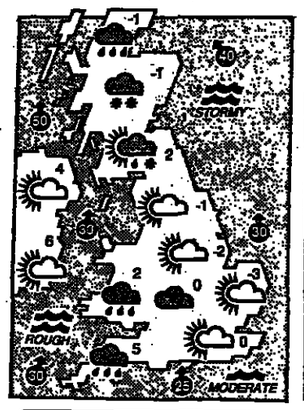
Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.
Times are GMT

TODAY	Sun rises:	Sun sets:	TOMORROW	Sun rises:	Sun sets:
	7.20 am	5.11 pm		7.18 am	5.12 pm
	Moon rises:	Moon sets:		Moon rises:	Moon sets:
	4.47 am	11.15 am		5.50 am	12.24 pm

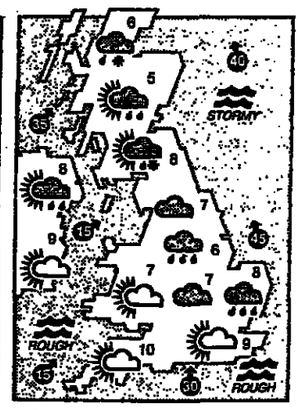
New Moon February 17

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AM



PM



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 9C (48F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 2C (36F). Humidity: 6 pm, 55 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 8.6 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1018.8 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 6C (43F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 0C (32F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.05 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 5.1 hr.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

TODAY
London 5.41 pm to 6.48 am
Bristol 5.50 pm to 6.58 am
Edinburgh 5.41 pm to 7.12 am
Manchester 5.44 pm to 7.01 am
Penzance 6.06 pm to 7.06 am

TOMORROW
London 5.42 pm to 6.46 am
Bristol 5.52 pm to 6.56 am
Edinburgh 5.43 pm to 7.10 am
Manchester 5.46 pm to 6.59 am
Penzance 6.07 pm to 7.05 am

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest day temp: London, 9C (48F); lowest day max: Aviemore (Highlands), 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Inverness, 0.55in; highest sunshine: Newcastle upon Tyne, 8.5 hr.

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	2	36	s	Guernsey	7	45	f
B'mingham	6	43	s	Inverness	2	36	c
Blackpool	5	41	f	Jersey	8	46	f
Bristol	7	45	s	London	7	45	s
Cardiff	7	45	r	M'chester	3	37	h
Edinburgh	2	36	f	Newcastle	4	39	s
Glasgow	2	36	s	N'ireldawy	5	41	s

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

THE POUND

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells		Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.545	2.405	Italy Lira	2270	2160
Austria Sch	21.70	20.80	Japan Yen	239	225
Belgium Fr	64.70	61.50	Netherlands Gld	3.48	3.29
Canada $	2.295	2.175	Norway Kr	11.71	11.11
Denmark Kr	11.84	11.24	Portugal Esc	252	238
Finland Mkk	7.51	7.11	South Africa Rd	4.05	3.85
France Fr	10.41	9.91	Spain Pta	209	197
Germany Dm	3.092	2.932	Sweden Kr	11.02	10.47
Greece Dr	255	235	Switzerland Fr	2.527	2.407
Hong Kong $	14.00	13.30	USA $	1.82	1.73
Ireland Pt	1.165	1.105	Yugoslavia Dnr	2850	2150

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 103.3 (January) London: The *FT* index closed up 4.0 at 1385.0. New York: The Dow Jones industrial average closed at .

صدا من الاجل

PART 2
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13 1988
THE TIMES
25
BUSINESS AND FINANCE 25-34
SPORT 38-42

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1385.0 (+4.0)

FT-SE 100
1734.0 (+4.2)

Bargains
20092 (21593)

USM (Datastream)
144.77 (–0.31)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7400 (–0.0195)

W German mark
2.9780 (+0.0044)

Trade-weighted
74.1 (–0.2)

Dollar surges on US deficit

Narrowest gap for year lifts markets

By Bailey Morris and David Smith

The dollar rose strongly after the publication of better-than-expected US trade figures, in a combination of relief and the hope that the US deficit is now firmly in decline.

The deficit, bolstered by continued strength in exports, dropped sharply for the second consecutive month in December to $12.2 billion (£7 billion), the lowest monthly deficit for a year.

The November deficit was $13.2 billion, and expectations had been for a December figure of $13-$14 billion.

Markets reacted immediately and favourably to the news, which propelled the dollar upward and sent interest rates tumbling around the world. A 0.4 per cent rise last month in the US producer price index, which revealed a slightly higher inflation rise than anticipated, was ignored. After an uncertain start on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average advanced 19.40 points to 1,980.94 in afternoon trading.

The dollar rose by more than 2 pfennigs to close at DM1.7115 in London, later firming to DM1.7155 in New York. The dollar also advanced from Y129 to Y131.10 and pushed sterling down by almost two cents to $1.74.

There were unsubstantiated reports that central bank intervention may have limited the dollar's rise, although a more likely interpretation was that dealers took profits after the dollar's initial surge.

Despite the continued recovery in exports, the US deficit for all of 1987 rose to another record of $171.2 billion, a level described as "unacceptable" by Mr William Verity, the Commerce Secretary. The deficit in 1986 was $156.2 billion.

Analysts were also cautious about certain elements in the trade figures, notably a strong rise in undocumented exports to Canada. They pointed out that there is normally a narrowing of the trade deficit between November and December, and that this is often followed by a deterioration in January.

There is a fear that the 0.5 per cent January rise in retail sales, announced on Thursday, could imply stronger imports this year than in the final quarter of last year.

Even so, the healthy gains in exports — which rose by 4.2 per cent to a record monthly level of $24.8 billion — have convinced some economists that the US is at last along the road to export-driven growth, which should be accompanied by flat or declining import growth, given the current level of the dollar. Imports were unchanged at $37 billion.

"We have a long way to go but we are beginning to see our economy driven by exports, and that means economic vitality and increased jobs," Mr Verity said.

A closer look revealed that uncertainties over the trade picture remained. Almost half the improvement in the December figures was attributed to a decline in oil imports to $3.6 billion from $3.99 billion in November. Oil imports are highly volatile and can change dramatically from month to month.

In addition, manufactured exports, which have increasd sharply in recent months due to the lower dollar over the past year, actually dropped slightly to $16.15 billion from $16.22 billion.

In the December data, there was evidence of a change in trade patterns in almost all areas but western Europe. The US deficit with Europe rose to $2.73 billion from $2.41 billion, but against other large trading partners the deficit declined.

Wall Street 26
Kenneth Fleet 27



Michael Anderson (left) who illegally tapped the telephone of Comet's Peter Hopper

Dixons stays silent over telephone-tapping case

By Joe Joseph

Dixons, the electrical retailer, is refusing to explain how it came to give a clear assurance during its battle to take over Woolworth Holdings two years ago that it had not ordered detectives to snoop on Woolworth directors but subsequently admitted to the police that it was behind the surveillance.

The assurance — sought and received by senior Woolworth executives who suspected their families were being watched — was delivered at a key stage in the bitterly fought £1.8 billion takeover battle. It was conveyed to Woolworth via Lord Garmoyle at Warburgs, Dixons' merchant bank adviser during the bid, through Mr Michael Richardson at Rothschilds, Woolworth's adviser.

Misrepresentations during closely-monitored takeover bids are uncommon, especially when relayed by one of the City's top merchant banks. Since Dixons' denial sounded firm, Woolworth's only reaction was to step up security, check visitors to its offices, and get its boardroom swept for bugs.

But in a subsequent letter from its solicitors, Dixons confirmed the controversial inquiries on Woolworth executives had been carried out during the course of the bid. It said the aim had been "to ascertain the senior directors' suitability for future employment within the Dixons Group, in the event that the bid succeeded."

Mr Michael Anderson — who was jailed at Luton this week for illegally tapping the home telephone of Mr Peter Hopper, a manager at Comet, the Woolworth subsidiary — was hired by Dixons to spy on several Woolworth executives and to compile dossiers during the Dixons bid on Mr Geoffrey Mulcahy and Mr Nigel Whittaker, Woolworth's chairman and executive director, respectively.

There is no suggestion that the surveillance carried out on Mr Mulcahy or Mr Whittaker was illegal, but its purpose seems unclear.

Such personal information is not usually demanded by wavering shareholders wondering whether to accept a bid; and to ascertain the suitability for future employment of Mr Mulcahy and Mr Whittaker, Anderson hardly needed to report back to Dixons on the executives' financial standing, their lifestyles, their children's birthdates and even what car they drove.

The reports — sent to Dixons' former head of security on April 26, three weeks after Dixons launched its bid — make dull reading for the most part, with Anderson finding out little more than that both Mr Mulcahy and Mr Whittaker worked hard, enjoyed a fairly good standard of living, were close to their families, and appeared to be generally well-liked.

But Anderson's report on Mr Mulcahy does say "we were unable to find anything to the family's detriment," which must make Woolworth wonder if Anderson was looking for dirt on his targets, whether or not Dixons had asked for it.

The Dixons case has highlighted the spread of industrial espionage in the City, where paranoia has created a rich living for scores of private detectives brought up on Raymond Chandler.

Many companies now regularly hire men such as Anderson — a Walter Mitty character who kept a shotgun to defend himself against the Mafia mobsters he believes pursue him around the world and who refers to himself in correspondence, James Bond fashion, simply as 403 — to sweep their boardrooms for bugs.

But employing private detectives to compile dossiers on directors and their families is felt generally to stretch the limits of acceptable behaviour even for bitterly fought takeover battles.

A senior executive of Woolworth said: "The conduct revealed in this case went far beyond the bounds of acceptable commercial behaviour. Many issues remain unresolved."

There is now speculation in the City that pressure might be put on the Takeover Panel, the powerful City watchdog that polices takeover battles, to include industrial espionage in its brief.

'British Gas attacked by EEC'

By Our City Staff

An unpublished EEC report is highly critical of British Gas's pricing policy and describes it as "wholly unacceptable and violently anti-competitive." City sources claimed last night.

The report arises from complaints by Sheffield Forgemasters, the industrial group, over prices charged to industrial users last year.

Sir Gordon Borrie, the Director-General of Fair Trading, later initiated a Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry. A parallel investigation was also undertaken by the European Commission's competition directorate.

A recent survey showed that Britain's 90,000 industrial users pay the highest tariffs in the Western world. Some companies believe the gap between British and foreign prices has widened since British Gas was privatized.

The MMC has still to report on the Forgemasters case and British Gas is understood to have until next Tuesday to submit its views to Brussels.

The EEC competition officials were not available for comment yesterday and neither Forgemasters, nor British Gas was aware of any ruling by the Brussels directorate.

Mr Phillip Wright, group managing director of Forgemasters, said that, given the deadline for British Gas's response, he thought it highly unlikely that Brussels would have made public its views. Neither company had heard anything from the EEC.

British Gas said it was still in the process of exchanging information with the competition directorate and could not say when this would be completed.

Mr James McKinnon, Director-General of Ofgas, the regulatory body for the gas industry, accused British Gas in December of shrouding its pricing policy for industrial users in a "cloak of secrecy."

BP claims it has 70% of Britoil shares

British Petroleum has 70.2 per cent of Britoil, Britain's largest independent oil producer. BP's increased 500p a share, or £2.5 billion bid, drew acceptances from holders of 40.4 per cent of Britoil in addition to the 29.8 per cent bought by BP.

The offer, due to close yesterday, was extended to February 19. Ultimate control of the Britoil board, however, rests in the hands of the Treasury which has a golden share in Britoil. A decision is expected next week.

Birmid set to fend off bid

The odds on Birmid Qualcast successfully seeing off Blue Circle Industries' £275 million takeover bid were increasing last night, as the takeover battle moved into its final hours.

It was clear that BCI was still short of victory, with about 48 per cent of the Birmid equity in its hands. It has only until 1pm today to pick up the remaining 2 per cent it needs for control.

The Birmid camp was taking comfort in the thought that few holders were likely to make the trip to National Westminster Bank's City branch, or its equivalents, on a Saturday. Birmid shares changed hands at 366p, a fall of 7p on the day, and 14p below the bid price.

Snooker buys

Midsummer Leisure is spending a further £2.9 million on the expansion of the snooker club division it acquired when it took over Riley last year. It has paid £2.4 million for six licensed snooker clubs in south-east England, and £500,000 for a large club in Doncaster. It is also investing a further £2 million in the refurbishment of the Riley clubs.

Radio float

Great Western Radio, the Bristol independent radio sation, intends to come to the stock market via an introduction in the near future. Stockbrokers to the issue are Stock Beech.

Nine groups 'want to buy Gateway stores from B&D'

By Our City Staff

Barker & Dobson Group has had approaches from nine companies, expressing an interest in buying the 79 Gateway superstores which will be put up for sale should B&D's bid for Dee Corporation be successful.

An internal document, prepared for Mr John Fletcher, the B&D chairman, is among those available for inspection in connection with the £2 billion offer. It discloses that unsolicited approaches are from nine parties, including two from abroad.

Surprisingly, since the Office of Fair Trading has made it clear that it will be looking closely at the monopoly implications of any sales to any of the supermarket majors, five of the parties have expressed interest in all the regional packages.

Market sources suggest that Sainsbury has expressed an interest in taking the whole of the £750 million package, but yesterday a Sainsbury spokeswoman insisted that the group would not be interested because it concentrates on organic growth through building its own stores.

The suggestion persists, however, that Sainsbury or somebody acting on its behalf has even sounded out Sir Gordon Borrie at the Office of Fair Trading to see if a deal would be acceptable if Sainsbury agreed to any disposals ordered by the OFT.

Sainsbury has the advantage over other supermarket groups in that it could convert unwanted or otherwise surplus stores into non-food use for the fast-growing Homebase operation.

Tesco is also believed to be interested while Asda has already indicated interest in taking some space

A successful sale of the superstores, which have 3.5 million square feet of selling space, is crucial to the B&D financing package for Dee and B&D has prepared a lengthy memorandum, explaining the basis for its expectation of generating £750 million from a sale.

The package of stores is to be disposed of by region to ensure the most advantageous disposal, the document states.

Basing its case on other big supermarket deals, B&D says that, excluding development sites, the price-tag equates to about £200 per square foot — which is below the prices paid by Tesco for Hillards or Argyll for Safeway.

The document discloses that B&D analysed the Gateway superstore portfolio in detail and the mooted realization price "looks undemanding."

Volcker optimistic on Latin America

By Colin Narbrough

Mr Paul Volcker, the former chairman of the US Federal Reserve, was mildly optimistic about the Latin American debt problems yesterday as he called for fresh loans for the region.

Addressing senior bankers and economists at a London conference on growth in Latin America, he said that while the Baker Plan for resolving the problems of 15 leading debtor nations was not perfect, it was certainly not dead and was the best solution to date.

The strategy, launched by Mr James Baker, the US Treasury Secretary, in 1985, should be broadly continued, but the less developed countries had to pay interest on their present debts and make the necessary adjustments to their economies to foster growth, he said.



Fresh loans: Paul Volcker

Mr Volcker said that to complement the adjustments being made by the debtor countries, there was a need for fresh credits from commercial banks and government-backed lenders.

The reason for his renewed, if guarded, optimism about the prospects for Latin America was that the debtor nations had recently given indications that they wanted to continue to service their debts in a way that would allow them to remain reputable members of the world economic club.

He specifically named Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela as countries that had signalled recognition of the need to play the game by the accepted rules and not pursue other options such as default.

The former Fed chairman's views run counter to the stance taken by some of the creditor banks with Latin American exposure which have started to withdraw from the debt restructuring process, making big provisions for loan losses.

The fear of "competitive provisioning" by the banks last week provoked a warning from Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Governor of the Bank of England.

Mr Arthur Dunkel, the director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, said on the first day of the conference that there was a growing recognition in the developing countries that trade liberalization brought rewards in terms of growth and employment.

City rejects plan to end two-week trading account

Leigh-Pemberton under attack

By Michael Clark

City opinion is overwhelmingly hostile to suggestions by the Bank of England that the Stock Exchange should abolish the two-week trading account.

The proposal was put forward by Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, this week. He claimed that it would reduce the exposure of stock market firms to defaults and curtail the practice by investors of "selling short," by which they sell shares they do not own in the hope of buying them back more cheaply later. Their profit is the difference between the price the shares are sold at and the level they are bought back at.

But the proposals are already encountering fierce opposition from brokers whose businesses are made up of private clients, who would emerge worse off than the big fund managers.

Turnover in the stock market has halved since the crash in October and there are fears that turnover levels could take another nosedive if the two-week account is abolished.

A number of brokers approached by *The Times* were critical of the Bank's suggestions but were unwilling to criticize the market authorities publicly. One medium-sized broker, said: "The two-week account must be retained. It has led to London becoming the most liquid market in the world. It's the only reason institutions want to trade in shares."

He also claims that a change to another system such as a seven-day rolling account would also provide big problems for the registrars, who, because of the backlog in registering shares, were heavily criticized in the wake of Big Bang.

"The registrars won't be able to cope. If you want to see London hold on to its role as the leading financial centre you must retain the account system".

A seven-day roll-over system would create administrative problems for the institutions. Most of them account on a monthly basis. They know how much they can spend and when they will be reimbursed under the present system.

But some big brokers are in favour of change although they admit that it would do little to stem market volatility

One leading broker agreed in principle with the proposals, but was already encountering criticism from clients. He pointed out that fund managers can still go short by borrowing stock from money brokers. "Private clients will turn to the options market which means we could again have a case of the tail wagging the dog," he said.

Mr Chris Cartwright, at Wood Mackenzie, the broker, believes that most big firms are in favour of Mr Leigh-Pemberton's measure.

He says the seven-day roll-over will iron out the problems in settlements by providing a smoother workflow. "But it does mean the private client will be unable to sell short and rely on credit. Most of the major firms are in favour of the proposals but the smaller firms are not."

"The Government may have different reasons for the proposals but the Stock Exchange has been going down this road for several months. It's not a case of them suddenly being boxed in," he added.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	
Dow Jones	1983.26 (+21.72)*
Tokyo	
Nikkei Average	23981.94 (+210.06)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	2287.23 (+30.75)
Amsterdam: Gen	223.1 (+1.6)
Sydney: AO	1199.1 (+3.9)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	1329.2 (+18.4)
Brussels:	
General	4313.0 (+17.0)
Paris: CAC	284.5 (+2.8)
Zurich: SKA Gen	435.0 (+1.7)
London:	
FT-A All-Share	889.68 (+2.33)
FT-"500"	980.16 (+2.38)
FT Gold Mines	255.9 (+3.2)
FT Fixed Interest	95.25 (+0.28)
FT Govt Secs	88.45 (–0.06)

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Closing prices Page 29

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:

Hawker Siddeley	485p (+10p)
Bass	772½p (+12p)
Stylo	360p (+110p)
Lynton Prop	368p (+26p)
Cons Gold	800p (+15p)
Sims Catering	447½p (+13p)
MJ Gleeson	475p (+30p)
Utd Newspapers	430½p (+11p)
Pict Petroleum	80p (+11p)
Adwest	304½p (+13p)
S Elliott	94½p (+10p)
Elys (Wimbledon)	525p (+20p)
Arlen	128p (+13p)

FALLS:

AC	337½p (–75p)
Utd Friendly	505p (–38p)
Perry Group	190p (–15p)
Gresham House	400p (–25p)
Schroders	900p (–25p)
Mitel	127½p (–22p)
Warmford	825p (–25p)

Closing prices

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 9%
3-month interbank 9 7/16–9 5/16%
3-month eligible bills: 8 15/16–8¾%
buying rate
US: Prime Rate 8½%
Federal Funds 6⅞%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.66-5.64%*
30-year bonds 104 1/32–105 1/32*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.7400	£: $1.7400*
£: DM2.9780	$: DM1.7123*
£: SwFr2.4464	$: SwFr1.4065*
£: FFr10.0659	$: FFr5.7835*
£: Yen228.11	$: Yen131.13*
£: Index:74.1	$: Index:85.7
ECU £0.693205	SDR £0.772031

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $440.30 pm $443.60
close $443.25-443.75 (£254.50-255.00)
New York:
Comex $443.30-443.80*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Mar.) pm $16.15bbl ($16.35)
* Denotes latest trading price

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Australian setback for Maxwell hopes

Melbourne's broadsheet newspaper, *The Age*, is not to be sold, according to John Fairfax, its owners. The news comes as a setback for Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, who has declared his intention to buy *The Age* and the *Australian Financial Review*. Mr Martin Daugherty, the editorial managing director of John Fairfax, said yesterday that *The Age* was "not for sale."

JohnFairfax is seeking a partner for the *Review* although analysts believe it would sell the newspaper outright for a sufficiently high price. Pearson, the publisher of the *Financial Times*, is understood to be favoured by Mr Warwick Fairfax, the proprietor of Fairfax Newspapers.

Barclays in £11.5m buy

Barclays Bank has bought 75 per cent of Arbuthnot Commercial Services Group for about £11.5 million. The rest is owned by Yorkshire Bank. The group, to be renamed Barclays Commercial Services, specializes in factoring and trade finance. In 1987 it had record pretax profits of more than £1.8 million.

Kerry's £4m acquisition

Unigate has sold its Chard, Somerset, meat processing and packing business, South West Meat, to the Kerry Group for around £4 million. South West Meat markets beef and lamb products to leading UK and continental retailers, and Kerry sees potential for further development of the British side of the business.

Expansion by Keppel

Singapore's Keppel Corporation has said that its subsidiary, Keppel Philippines Shipyard Inc (KPSI), has acquired a 58 per cent stake in Cebu Shipyard And Engineering Works (CSEW) for 39.6 million pesos (£1.08 million). CSEW, located in Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu, is one of the largest and best equipped shipyards in the Philippines, employing more than 600 people, Keppel said.

The acquisition has expanded KPSI's ship-repair facilities and capability in the Philippines considerably. KPSI's shipyard in Batangas has two floating docks.

ICI in £100m 'expansion'

Imperial Chemical Industries intends to spend £100 million to upgrade and expand its Teesside complex which produces petrochemicals and plastics products. An ICI spokesman said the investment, which still has to be approved by the board, would be earmarked for Wilton, one of three plants in the Teesside complex.

31% rise at rubber group

Net profit at Pacific Dunlop, the Australian rubber group, rose by 31 per cent for the six months to December 31, 1988 boosted by new products and concerns over Aids. Latex products were a big contributor to the sharply higher interim profit of Aus$85.75 million (£34.5 million), up from Aus$65.42 million.

Trafalgar may make bid for Costain

By Joe Joseph

Trafalgar House, which so far has been coy about the motive behind the 6.1 per cent stake it has quietly built up in Costain, is not ruling out a takeover bid for the rival construction group.

Trafalgar has until now referred to the shareholding as "a commercial venture" and "just a trade investment".

But Sir Nigel Broackes, Trafalgar's chairman, made clear yesterday that while the company has no immediate plans for its recently increased stake in Costain, it does not rule out a bid.

"We have taken a strategic stake in a number of companies and we have sometimes followed that with a bid, more often with a sale," he said. "But if there is a second fall, which no one rules out, we would be well placed to do any number of things, and a bid might be one of them."

The price of shares in Costain jumped on February 3 when Trafalgar disclosed it had raised its stake in Costain to 6.1 per cent from 5.9 per cent. An original shareholding of just under 5 per cent was built up last summer, a time when Costain shares were trading above 300p and at one point soared to 387p. It is possible that the initial decision to swell the stake was aimed at averaging down the cost of the Costain shareholding.

Sir Nigel said December's £200 million acquisition of Chase Property restored Trafalgar's property tradition, adding about 21 properties to the portfolio.

"We have enough to keep us busy for two to three years," he added, explaining that mature investment properties with no foreseeable development potential would be sold and £100 million spent on developing the remaining buildings. "We don't hold mature properties, we create them and sell them."

Clearly pleased with the purchase, Sir Nigel said: "When Chase bought Property and Holding Investment Trust, they bought one of the last unexploited little gold mines of ancient property urgently in need of redevelopment. I think it (the purchase of Chase) restores the emphasis on property, which is where we came from in the first place."

STOCK MARKETS

Trade figures fail to lift gloom

News of the greater-than-expected fall in the US trade deficit to $12.2 billion in December failed to awaken the stock market from its deep slumber.

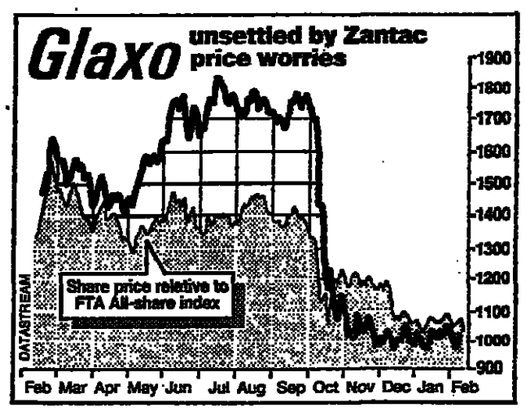
Dealers sat on their hands for long periods and even though business did perk up slightly after the US statistics and news of a further fall in the British inflation rate, the overall volume was pitiful.

Fears are growing that further redundancies are imminent and that smaller broking houses will be forced out of business because of the current dearth of activity.

The gloomy mood was not helped by the Governor of the Bank of England's remarks that he would like to see the abolishment of the age-old account settlement system. Many dealers, who were left with nothing else to do yesterday but discuss the implications of a such move, suggested that it would definitely be the straw that broke the camel's back and would cut turnover even further.

However, equity prices did manage to recover from early weakness with the opening rise on Wall Street helping late sentiment. The FT-SE 100 share index moved up, to close 4.2 points higher at 1,734.0, while the FT index of 30 blue chip stocks finished the day 4 points better at 1,385.0.

Gilt-edged stocks also showed little sign of life, but were generally a shade firmer for choice.



Hawker Siddeley, the engineering group, advanced by a further 10p to 485p as 1.4 million shares changed hands.

The shares have been strong throughout the week as stories persist that Hanson, the acquisitive conglomerate, has bought a near-5 per cent stake and was looking to increase it.

Before the crash, Hawker was supported up to a peak of 630p amid intense speculation that BTR, the industrial conglomerate, was stalking the company.

Reports emanating from America that Smithkline Beckman Corporation, the US health care products manufacturer, is cutting the price of some of its drugs because of loss of market share unsettled Glaxo, Britain's biggest pharmaceuticals group.

The shares dropped by 6p to £10.25 on a turnover of nearly 2 million shares as fears grew that Glaxo may be forced to reduce the price of Zantac, its best-selling, anti-ulcer drug, in the US to compete with SBC's reductions.

Towards the end of last year, Glaxo-watchers were startled by news that the French government was putting pressure on the company to reduce the price of Zantac by at least one-third. That immediately induced fears that other governments, including the US — which makes up the bulk of Zantac sales — could follow suit.

The shares have performed nervously ever since, with the sliding dollar also prompting weakness. Sentiment yesterday was also affected by the news of a profits downgrading by Wood Mackenzie, the broking subsidiary of County NatWest.

Although analysts at WoodMac believe that the group will achieve strong sales growth over the next two years, the cost of research and development over that period will put extra pressure on margins. Therefore, pretax profit forecasts have been cut from £845 million to £820 million for the current year and from £1 billion to £955 million for next year.

WoodMac believes that the interim results, scheduled for March 14, will be flat and in current thin market conditions expects the shares to trade within the 950p-£1.00 range.

Other broking houses are split on their views about Glaxo. Mr Steven Ping, an analyst at Salomon Brothers, advises clients to sell the shares in the short term. However, he says: "Once the interim results are out of the way, the shares will return to a much stabler course."

Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, recommends a purchase of the shares. It suggests that the underlying trend is good and the R&D portfolio exciting, while Nomura Securities, the big, Tokyo-based securities house, picks Glaxo as one of the stocks to outperform the market in the months ahead.

Takeover speculation in Steetley, the construction materials group, intensified as the shares leapt by a further 11p to 312p.

The word in the market is that CSR, the Australian group, has been busy picking up lines of stock.

Tate & Lyle, Britain's biggest sugar producer, rose by 11p to 800p in thin trading.

Just over a week ago, speculators were alerted when Hillsdown Holdings, the fast-growing, food-to-furniture manufacturing group, surprised the market by revealing that it owned 3.57 per cent.

Shares of Allied-Lyons held steady at 335p despite reports that Mr Alan Bond may have been adding to his holding. Sources close to Allied claim that the stories are wide of the mark. At the last count, Mr Bond held 5 per cent of Allied.

Geoffrey Foster

- **Singer & Friedlander advanced by 6p to 74.5p amid talk that a stake in the company is about to change hands. Mr John Gunn's British & Commonwealth holds an 8 per cent interest and whispers in the market suggest that Mr Gunn is to buy Mr Robert Maxwell's 7.7 per cent stake.**
- **Dares Estates, the property developer, held steady at 33p. Thursday's news of two property sales for a total of £40 million has focused attention on the group. Analysts are currently looking for pretax profits of £4.5 million but the final figure could be nearer £4.75 million.**

TOKYO

Shares move higher in modest trading

(Reuter) — Share prices closed higher in modest trade on speculation ahead of the US December trade figures.

Expectations of a narrower trade deficit than in November were encouraged by a higher dollar against the yen, sparking buying of export companies' shares, according to brokers.

The Nikkei average gained 210.06 points to close at 23,981.94, just below the day's high. On Wednesday the average had climbed 109.61 points. Thursday was a holiday.

Advancing shares led declining issues by a five-to-three margin on turnover of 650 million shares against 630 million traded on Wednesday.

Securities house, electronics, and manufacturing issues soared.

Exporting precision instrument makers and car manufacturers also rose on predictions that the US December trade deficit would narrow from November's $13.2 billion (£7.5 billion) shortfall. The December figures, when released, showed a deficit of $12.2 billion.

Banks, property, airline, trading companies and non-ferrous metal firms also advanced.

FRANKFURT

Trade figures boost prices in late dealing

(Agencies) — Leading share prices rose between three and five marks in post-bourse business, on news that the US December trade deficit narrowed to $12.2 billion (£7 billion) from $13.22 billion the previous month.

Earlier, in normal trading, share prices had ended mixed with a slightly higher bias.

The exchange's running index advanced 4.10 points to 1,026.75 at the close, after posting gains of nearly 10 points during the course of trading. The Commerzbank index, calculated at mid-session, increased by 18.4 points to 1,329.2.

NEW YORK

Dow quickly ahead on fall in US trade deficit

(Agencies) — Shares generally rose sharply in active, early trading yesterday on the news of a drop in the US trade deficit. After a wobbly start, influenced in part by a bond market surge and then a tumble, investors seemed convinced that the trade deficit is on a narrowing trend.

The Dow Jones industrial average jumped by 24 points to 1,985.54. Rising shares outnumbered declining ones by seven to two. Gillette slipped by 1 to 40 following a sharp advance on Thursday. Coniston Partners has said that it has a 6.8 per cent stake in Gillette.

On Thursday, the Dow average closed 0.50 lower at 1,961.54.

- **Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin — Star Cablevision Group's unit, Star Midwest Inc, has received a commitment from General Electric's General Electric Capital Corporation to provide Star Midwest with about $225 million in debt financing.**

Star Midwest will use the financing to acquire North American Communications and certain cable television systems formerly owned by James Communications.

The money will also be used to refinance borrowings

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES	
Ald Restaurants	61
Ass-Henriques 71hp	79 +4
Brit Pet P/P	77
Carron Phoenix (120p)	143
City Grove;(100p)	112 +1
Eurotunnel	268 +20
Eurotunnel Wrnts	21½ +4
Firstland	58 –5
Fairway London	78 –2
Hard Rock Cafe	120
Do 'A'	75
Hatfield Est (100p)	111
How Group	88
ISA Intl (80p)	106 +3
Inshops (52p)	65
Kunick	32½
Mowat	38 +1
Nestor-BNA (75p)	98 +2
Power Corp	108
Record (88p)	58
Sec Archives	190 –3
Shaftsbury (180p)	148
Shorco	110
Sykes-Pickavant	118 +2
TGI (130p)	130 +4
Titon Hldgs (180p)	81 –1
Tomorrows Leisure	31
URS Intl	51
USDC Inv	110 +3
Waverley Mining	80

RIGHTS ISSUES	
Cooper (F) N/P	4 –½
Crean (J) N/P	65
Gr West 6% N/P	
Howden N/P	20
Imtec N/P	½
ML Hldgs N/P	7
Michael J N/P	
Parkway N/P	55 +2
Paringa N/P	11 –2
Verson N/P	4½ –½

(Issue price in brackets).

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Allid Lyon	300	45	50	-	5	15	-
(*335)	330	25	33	40	15	25	32
	360	11	22	28	31	42	46
Bass	750	55	80	100	27	37	50
(*771)	800	30	55	75	55	72	80
	850	15	37	57	95	105	113
Brit Air	140	24	30	35	3	8	10
(*160)	160	13	17	24	10	15	18
	180	5	9	15	24	27	30
Brit Com	280	35	40	50	13	20	23
(*295)	300	22	32	37	20	32	35
	330	9	20	25	42	50	52
Brit Gas	130	9	14	18	8	12	15
(*129)	140	5	9¼	13½	15	18	21
	160	2	4½	-	33	34	-
BP	240	24	32	40	8	13	20
(*250)	260	11	18	28	19	23	30
	280	4¾	12	-	33	38	-
Bristol	420	82	82	87	2	4	6
(*497)	450	40	50	60	8	10	15
	500	9	20	25	18	25	-
Cons Gold	800	58	100	125	75	100	120
(*809)	850	27	65	100	105	135	155
	900	7	35	150	175	-	-
Courtauld	300	27	35	38	12	25	27
(*307)	330	10	22	27	30	42	45
	360	3	14	18	55	67	67
	390	2	9	-	85	90	-
Com Union	330	14	28	35	30	35	40
(*325)	360	6	17	25	50	55	60
	390	4	10	-	80	85	-
C & W	330	30	47	57	17	28	35
(*338)	360	17	32	40	35	45	59
	390	9	21	28	57	65	70
GEC	140	18	25	28	4	8	10
(*154)	160	6¼	14	18	12	16	20
	180	2	7	9	28	32	35
GKN	280	29	42	48	14	22	27
(*301)	300	18	30	37	24	33	40
	330	8	19	28	47	55	-
	360	3	10	-	67	72	-
Grand Met	390	65	80	-	5	13	-
(*454)	420	42	60	68	13	22	27
	460	20	40	46	32	40	45
	500	9	22	-	80	83	-
ICI	950	113	145	-	-	27	47
(*1046)	1000	75	113	135	50	70	85
	1050	55	83	-	75	85	-
	1100	33	72	95	105	125	140
Jaguar	300	35	50	60	12	20	28
(*327)	330	20	35	42	27	37	40
	360	10	23	32	47	53	60
Land Sec	420	68	75	88	7	17	22
(*476)	460	38	50	65	17	32	37
	525	4	18	45	48	53	58
M & S	160	18	24	28	7	10	16
(*168)	180	6	11	18	18	24	28
	200	2	7	12	36	38	40
R-Royce	120	12	17	22	7	12	14
(*125)	130	7	12	17	11	16	18
	140	3½	8	14	19	23	25
STC	220	16	28	33	15	21	27
(*221)	240	9	18	26	29	33	37
	260	5	12	20	46	48	55
Sainsbury	200	27	33	-	6	10	-
(*220)	220	15	20	27	12	20	23
	240	6	12	18	25	32	34
Shell	1000	70	97	115	48	60	80
(*1050)	1050	44	75	-	75	85	-
	1100	25	55	72	108	120	135
Storehse	220	25	33	40	8	18	18
(*232)	240	12	23	30	16	25	30
	260	8	15	22	33	40	45
	280	5	9	-	53	58	-
Trafalgar	300	55	80	90	9	18	22
(*322)	330	17	25	35	22	33	37
	360	7	15	25	43	52	58
TSB	100	14	18	-	3	4	-
(*110)	110	7	13	16	6	9	11
	120	4	8	9	12	15	17
Woolworth	240	33	39	43	11	18	22
(*259)	260	18	27	33	18	30	32
	280	12	20	23	32	45	45

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Glaxo	950	95	137	170	22	45	63
(*1025)	1000	65	105	143	35	70	85
	1050	40	80	120	68	95	110
	1100	23	60	-	100	110	-
Hanson	110	26	29	-	½	2½	-
(*135)	120	17	21½	25½	1¼	5	7
	130	9½	15½	19½	4½	8	11½
	140	4½	10	15½	9½	13	16½
Hawker	420	68	75	92	3½	15	28
(*484)	460	40	50	72	15	35	45
	500	14	32	50	33	55	65
Lonhro	220	35	36	39	4	11	15
(*253)	240	17	22	27	13	20	26
	280	7	13	20	27	30	38
	230	3	8	12	43	47	56
Midland	360	47	55	62	9	17	25
(*400)	390	23	37	45	22	32	42
	420	9	23	32	42	50	60
Sears	120	8	12	18	3	8	13
(*122)	130	4	8	13	11	15	17
	140	2	5	9	20	23	25
Tesco	140	14	20	22	3	6	8
(*149)	180	5	10	15	14	17	20
	183	2	-	-	37	-	-
Thorn EMI	500	66	87	100	5	20	30
(*554)	550	32	57	65	22	35	52
	600	10	33	45	57	67	80
	650	3	20	-	97	105	-
TNF	200	23	32	38	4	10	13
(*219)	220	9	22	28	11	17	23
	240	3	11	18	25	30	35
Unilever	460	43	58	80	12	27	35
(*494)	500	22	38	58	30	47	57
	550	6	22	38	66	80	87
Wellcome	360	55	72	90	6	20	28
(*404)	390	32	53	72	14	30	40
	420	16	40	58	30	43	53

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAA	100	8	17	21	2	7	11
(*107)	110	2	11	17	5	12	19
	120	1	6	10	14	18	23
Brit Aero	300	46	57	65	1	11	20
(*345)	330	18	35	45	1¾	24	30
	360	5	19	34	18	45	50
	390	1	11	28	47	67	72
BAT Ind	380	50	60	70	1	13	18
(*440)	420	20	40	52	2½	33	39
	460	1¾	21	32	25	47	50
	500	1	10	-	65	75	-
Brit Tele	200	45	51	55	¼	1½	4
(*245)	220	25	34	39	½	4½	9
	240	8	19	27	3½	11	17
Cadbury	220	25	33	37	½	9	14
(*244)	240	9	19	27	3½	11	17
	260	2	11	17	18	30	34
Guinness	280	15	28	36	2	17	20
(*273)	300	4	18	25	10	27	32
	320	2	12	20	30	38	43
Ladbroke	300	52	62	67	1	8	13
(*351)	330	23	40	47	2	14	23
	360	3	17	25	15	32	37
LASMO	280	25	45	50	4	20	33
(*300)	300	7	32	50	10	35	42
	330	1¼	21	32	33	53	60
Pilkington	200	24	35	42	2	6	12
(*224)	220	6	23	28	3	15	22
	240	1½	12	20	20	25	33
Plessey	250	1	9	15	40	42	50
(*154)	140	15	24	28	1	7	11
	160	2	11	18	9	16	20
P & O	180	½	6	9	27	30	34
(*533)	460	75	82	95	1¼	10	18
	500	35	52	70	1½	23	30
Prudential	550	5	27	42	24	50	53
(*824)	800	35	60	85	10	45	55
	850	7	40	63	35	70	80
Racal	900	2	20	43	80	105	110
(*208)	200	10	22	29	3	11	15
	220	1	13	19	16	20	28
RTZ	240	1	7	12	35	38	42
(*335)	300	45	58	70	2	15	22
	330	14	40	50	10	28	35
	360	2	25	30	35	50	55
	380	2	17	-	50	70	-
Vaal Reefs	90	5	14	20	3	11	15
(*91)	100	1½	10	16	13	20	25
	110	1	8	12	22	27	33
Tr 11¾%	104	1⅛	-	-	2	-	-
1991	106	1/16	-	-	2 1/32	-	-
(*106)	108	1/16	-	-	2¾	-	-
	110	1/16	-	-	4⅝	-	-
Tr 11¾%	114	2⅜	3⅝	-	7 1/32	1⅞	-
03/07	116	1 1/32	2⅝	-	9 1/32	2⅝	-
(*116)	118	1 3/32	2	-	2	3⅝	-
	120	3/32	1⅞	-	2¾	4⅞	-
	122	1/32	2 3/32	-	5⅛	6⅝	-

FT-SE INDEX (*1733)

Series	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
1600	136	155	173	—	5	21	35	—
1650	93	115	135	157	10	35	53	65
1700	50	80	103	125	25	53	72	85
1750	25	55	80	100	50	78	97	110
1800	10	33	63	78	83	108	125	135
1850	4	18	37	58	127	145	160	170
1900	2	10	25	37	175	185	195	203

February 12, 1988 Total: 26330 Calls 19238 Puts 7112 FT-SE: Calls 1046 Puts 1336
*Underlying security price.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
February 1	February 12	May 5	May 16

Call options were taken out on: 12/2/88 Chamerhall, Hughes Food Group, Blacks Leisure, Polly Peck International, Amberday Holdings, Bellwich, Inoco, Legal & General Group, Rea Brothers, MBS, Eurotunnel.
Put: Eurotunnel Wts.

Sport to lead leisure spending

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Sporting activities, both outdoor and indoor, are likely to see the most consumer spending growth in leisure markets up to 1992, closely followed by home-based activities and gardening.

The forecast comes from the latest study* of the leisure markets by Staniland Hall Associates, the business forecaster, which sees growth in total leisure spending in real terms, netting out the effects of inflation, rising by 13.2 per cent between 1985 and 1989 followed by a 9.7 per cent rise between the end of that period and 1992. The forecasts are made in the expectation of an increase in leisure time for many.

Sports-related spending is forecast to rise by 20.7 per cent by 1989 and another 19.7 per cent between then and 1992. With interest centring on the simpler sports and health-related activities, sales of clothing and footwear are expected to outpace that on sports equipment.

Spending on home-related activities is expected to show almost as big a surge. From 1985 to 1989 a 19.7 per cent increase is forecast with a subsequent 15.9 per cent rise to 1992. Particularly rapid growth is anticipated in DIY activities and gardening with more modest growth in other interests like hobbies, books and pets.

With two-thirds of leisure time spent in and around the home, the study sees "enormous potential" for further installation of electronic equipment in the home. Continued growth in sales and rentals of video recorders is anticipated as is spending on home computers and compact disc players.

Spending on cameras and allied equipment is also expected to increase. More toys also will be bought for the increasing number of the nation's children.

The third biggest growth sector is expected to be social activities including going out to public houses, restaurants, discothèques and clubs. An 11.7 per cent rise by 1989 and another 7.8 per cent by 1992 is predicted.

Not much change in drinking habits is seen except for a slight acceleration in wine sales. A greater emphasis on family dining out is predicted.

Travel and tourism within Britain, including the foreign tourist element, is set for a 10.1 per cent rise to 1989 and for 5.9 per cent to 1992 and almost the same trend is predicted for Britons travelling abroad except the growth in the later period to 1992 is put at only 4 per cent.

The probability of a weakening of sterling could to an extent undermine the trend to take holidays abroad, says the survey.

Within Britain, the most successful leisure developments are expected to be the new products, such as in the "nostalgia industry" which exploits the national heritage, the new-style holiday villages and theme parks now that they are recovering from a shaky start.

The betting and gambling industry is likely to see growth of only 2 per cent in the period to 1989 improving to above 3 per cent by 1992, the survey suggests.

**UK Leisure Markets: 1987 survey and prospects to 1992*, by Francis Kinsman: £96 from Staniland Hall, PO Box 643, Alderbury House, Upton Park, Slough, SL1 2UJ.

Wine trade's black October

By Our Industrial Editor

A big fall in demand for wines such as sherries and ports helped turn last October into the worst month for the wine trade in the first 10 months of last year.

Table wines were least affected along with sparkling wines, including champagnes, which proved the best performers. But there are trade fears that November and December will have seen table wines suffering a sharp fallback, according to the Wine and Spirit Association.

The figures were "most depressing" said Mr Nick Gent, the association's chairman, who added: "October wine sales should normally reflect the first major increase for the peak pre-Christmas trading period."

Overall sales earlier in the year had surged with the moving annual total in the association's analyses showing in the February an 8 per cent growth during the previous 12 months and at or approaching 6 per cent in subsequent months until October when the figure dropped back to a 3.3 per cent increase.

Last year is likely to finish up showing a growth in wine sales of at best 5 per cent, according to Mr Gent.

Sales of medium-strength wines, mostly sherries, were down almost 30 per cent in October on annual comparison, shaving their moving annual total to minus 18.7 per cent.

Punitive taxation was behind the plight of these wines, said Mr Gent, who added: "We have urged the Chancellor to cut taxation in this sector by 10 per cent in the forthcoming Budget."

Heavy wines, mostly ports, were down 10 per cent in October, which left the moving annual total still showing an 8.4 per cent rise against 9.3 per cent in the previous month.

APPOINTMENTS

National Joint Consultative Committee: **Mr Bernard Ball** has been elected chairman for 1988.

Aukett Associates: **Mr Alan Brooker** has joined the board as a non-executive director.

Fastframe: **Mr James McGreal** has been appointed managing director.

Confederation of British Industry: **Mr John Dunkley** becomes director of public affairs.

Ian Ashworth & Associates: **Mr David Faulkner** and **Mr Colin Cripps** are now directors.

Versatec: **Mr Charles Askanas** has been appointed president.

Privatbanken London: **Mr Carsten Esphavn Jensen** becomes a director and chief executive.

James Gulliver Associates Investments: **Mr Clifford Lloyd-Richards** is now a non-executive director.

BICC: **Mr David Cawthra** has been elected to the board.

B&Q: **Mrs Janet Rubin** joins the board as personnel director.

Laporte Industries (Holdings): **Mr K Hough** has been made managing director, paper & water treatment chemicals, for North America and Europe.

Financial i: **Mr Nigel Griffiths** becomes research and production director and **Mr David Creber** sales director.

Cole & Lyons (UK): **Mr Peter Wylie-Harris** has been appointed managing director.

Scotts of Thrapston: **Mr Brian Carroll** has joined the board.

Plumline Display: **Miss Belinda Jones** becomes financial director and **Mr Donald Hodgkinson** works director.

Goode Durrant: **Mr Dudley Thompson** becomes an executive director from February 15.

Central Independent Television: **Mr Marshall Stewart** becomes director of corporate strategy and **Mr Colin Campbell** director of legal affairs.

French Chamber of Commerce of Great Britain: **Mr Francis Cousin** has been appointed president.

McNicholas Construction: **Mr TS Corrigan** has been made a non-executive director.

Intermarket Surveillance Group: **Mr Robert Ackermann** has been appointed chairman.

Wyndham poised for Williams

By Michael Tate

Two years after turning down a £1.9 million bid from Wyndham, the Welsh property group, John Williams of Cardiff, the steel stockholder, is ceding effective control to Wyndham in return for a £1 million cash injection.

Williams ran into hefty losses in the second half of last year, turning in a pretax loss of £481,000 for the year to end-September, and now finds it needs some financial underpinning. It was the opportunity Mr Brian Brownhill, Wyndham's chairman, was looking for, and he has agreed to put up "not less than £1 million" for new shares.

The deal will involve Wyndham taking 4 million shares (about 36 per cent), although Mr Brownhill says the deal will be off if the Takeover Panel insists on a full takeover bid for the company.

Part of the deal is that Mr Brownhill takes over as chairman, and that his colleague Mr Brynmor Jones joins the board. Mr David Williams will stay on as managing director, but the three non-executive directors will go.

Mr Brownhill's plan still hinges on several factors, including Lloyds Bank maintaining existing bank facilities, and "no material adverse change in the financial or trading position" of Williams since December 31.

WALL STREET

	Feb 11	Feb 10		Feb 11	Feb 10		Feb 11	Feb 10
AMR Cp	35¾	35¾	Firestone	34⅞	33¾	Pepsico	34⅞	34¾
ASA	45¼	45¼	Fst Chicago	22⅝	23	Pfizer	52¾	52¾
Astra Life	47	47¾	Fst Int Bncp	40¾	39¾	Phelps Dod	38¾	36¾
Allied Signal	33¾	33¾	Fst Penn C	9⅝	9⅝	Philip Mor	90	89¾
Allis Chin	1¼	1¼	FT Wactwa	38½	38¾	Philip Pet	14⅝	14½
Alcoa	43	41⅞	Ford Motor	42¼	42¾	Polaroid	28⅝	28¾
Amerace Inc	17	17¾	GAF Cp	48	48¾	Primerica	27¾	28¾
AMR Hess	27¾	27¾	GTE Cp	33	33¼	Procr Gble	82¾	83¾
Am Brands	45¾	45¾	Gen Cp	19¼	19	Pub S E G	25½	25¾
Am Cynmd	46¼	46¾	Gn Dynam	52¾	52¾	Raytheon	68½	68½
Am Ele Pwr	28¾	29¾	Gen Electric	43¼	42¾	Rynlds Mtal	40¾	38¼
Amexs	25½	25¾	Gen Inst	28¾	27¾	Rockwell Int	17¾	18
Am Family	13¾	13¾	Gen Mills	50	49¾	Royal Dutch	111½	111¾
Am Home	75¾	76¾	Gen Motors	65¾	65¾	SPE Sopac	44¾	44¾
Am Int Grp	57½	58¼	Gen Pub Ut	30¾	30¾	Sara Lee	38¾	39¾
Am Stand	67¾	67¾	Genesco	4½	4¾	Schlumb	34¼	33¾
Am Telph	29¾	29¾	Georgia Pac	36¾	35	Scott Pap	69¾	69¾
Amoco Cp	74¾	74¾	Gillette	39¾	37¾	Seagram	54	54¾
Armco Steel	10¾	10¾	Goodrich	42¾	41¾	Sears Roeb	35¾	35¾
Asarco Inc	22	20¾	Goodyear	57¾	57	Shell Trans	73½	73½

Leysen withdraws from battle for Société Générale

From Jonathan Braude, Brussels

Mr André Leysen, the Belgian businessman who two days ago claimed to have saved Société Générale de Belgique from foreign control, yesterday withdrew from the battle to take over the holding company.

His announcement followed the failure of his Belgian and foreign allies, including the Paris-based Compagnie Financière de Suez, to sign an accord guaranteeing a majority of Belgian directors on the Sqciété Générale board.

In a statement which reflected his disappointment, Mr Leysen said he would no longer act as spokesman for the Belgian group. He added that he would not take any further initiative in the takeover struggle because he had failed in his attempts to get his Italian rival, Signor Carlo de Benedetti, to guarantee Belgian interests in the day-to-day management of the bank.

At first glance, Mr Leysen's withdrawal seemed to leave victory in the hands of Signor de Benedetti and his holding company, Cerus. The Italian businessman, who is also chairman of Olivetti, claimed on Thursday that he and his allies now held 38 per cent of Générale's shares. His public offer for a further 15 per cent, would, if it succeeds, give him a majority shareholding and control of the company.

However, the share offer set at 4,000 Belgian francs (£64) a share may well flop. Prices on the open Bourse are running at more than 5,000 francs (£80). Moreover, there is evidence that most of the remaining shares are now in the hands of groups or companies hostile to Signor de Benedetti.

Meanwhile, Générale de Banque, in which Société Générale is the principal shareholder, and Amro Bank yesterday announced a "banking alliance". Générale's chairman, Mr Villegas de Clercamp, said it was intended to "evolve into an integrated European Banking Group". He added that the combined strength of the two banks would give them the European base and the size to cope with the opening of the EEC internal market by the end of 1992.

Together, the two banks would form the fourth-largest group in Europe. The new business would be one of the most diversified financial groups in Europe. Each bank already has a 10 per cent stake in the other, and the plan is to raise cross held shares to 25 per cent over the next three years.

However, there were fears yesterday that Signor de Benedetti might try to block the alliance, although after nearly a year of negotiations the two banks are firmly committed to each other.

Observers said the timing of the announcement was a clear snub to Signor de Benedetti, apparently prompted by Générale de Banque's principal shareholder, Société Générale de Belgique.

CEGB breakup 'will add to costs'

By Graham Searjeant

Splitting the Central Electricity Generating Board to create competition in a privatized industry would initially increase costs and prices to customers, the Electricity Council concludes in its submissions to the Commons Select Committee on Energy.

The council, which brings together the 12 area distribution boards and the CEGB, says it considered a number of options for privatization. But it concluded that the only real prospects for competition lay in generation and that "breaking up the CEGB to introduce competition was not a commercially viable proposition".

It therefore rejected the option of fragmentation of the CEGB as not being "practicable in realistic terms".

The council's submission, in the form of answers to questions from the Committee to be presented on Wednesday, makes it clear that the different interests in the council have not been able to agree on a proposed new structure for the industry or on a new regulatory regime.

Its agreed rejection of division of the CEGB is therefore likely to embarrass Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Energy Secretary, who is under pressure to introduce radical measures to ensure competition.

The council's opposition centres on its conclusion that competing generating companies would be unattractive to investors, who would demand higher rates of return, requiring higher prices for consumers.

"Investment in such generators would no doubt be perceived by the investment community as being extremely high risk and a correspondingly high discount rate would need to be used."

Privatization which retained some monopoly element might require a real rate of return of between 5 and 7 per cent, compared with the new 5 per cent target, but fragmented competition would require significantly higher rates of return.

The council also implies that competitive generation would hinder commercial development of nuclear power because of its high capital cost.

"The higher the discount rate, the less will capital intensive projects be included in the investment programme. This will tend to reduce the volume of investment needed to satisfy any particular pattern of electricity demand growth but to increase the volume of non-capital costs."

America still holds the key as original concerns persist



KENNETH FLEET

A Greek tragedian would see the dramas of the last 16 months in New York, London and other financial centres as events following their predestined course. There may be something in it. The crash that began on Wall Street on October 19 is traceable to two simple and related causes.

It was not, as Mr Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, suggested, "an accident waiting to happen"; primarily it was caused by the determination of Americans to consume more than they produce, exhibited to the rest of the world in vast federal budget and balance of payments deficits. The related cause was the American government's unwillingness or inability to tackle the deficits in ways that would have persuaded the rest of the world that the President and Congress meant business. Reagan politics had overridden economics.

Arguably the stock market crash might have been delayed, if not prevented, had the Japanese and West German central banks agreed to lower interest rates to stimulate their own economies and take pressure off the dollar. Their obduracy was the signal to markets that international co-operation was not nearly as strong as they had thought.

Inevitably London has followed New York into a bear market. The change in sentiment has had as explosive an impact as the energy and euphoria released by the first Big Bang, almost exactly a year before Black Monday. A great deal of work has been done, particularly in the United States, on what actually happened in markets in October. Defects in market mechanisms have been highlighted and suggestions made to reduce price volatility and improve supervision and control. In the United States the Brady commission, and in Britain Sir Nicholas Goodison, have proposed that the central bank should assume responsibility for market surveillance — Sir Nicholas on the grounds that stock markets are now mainly driven by banks' securities business. The Governor of the Bank of England has weighed in with the suggestion to consider stopping stock exchange dealing within the account and thus limit speculation.

If the Governor's advice were followed it would radically reduce turnover and increase the problems of adapting the structures of the securities business to the bear market — the Third Bang thousands of people are hearing as the golden balloon bursts and the exit door shuts behind them. The pressure for more market regulation cannot be entirely resisted. A gradual decline in prices may be preferable to a sudden collapse, but one way or another the movement of markets will ultimately reflect the underlying economy. The same concerns that unhinged Wall Street in October — trade deficits, a weakening exchange rate, interest rates and the risk of high inflation — are looming larger on the domestic scene. The United States, however, still holds the key.

For all its ills, the dollar remains the world's reserve and principal trading currency. It is also foolish on the Americans' part to be indifferent to the real value of the currency they require other countries to buy in order to cover their trade deficits. Markets are therefore obsessed with the US monthly trade figures and the value of the dollar. My own guess is that the trade gap this year will narrow and the dollar will stand higher by the end of the year.

Technical factors alone should see it up to Y145 by mid-year; thereafter the determining influences will be the forthcoming Presidential election and the American inflation rate. The Wall Street bear market should do the job the Administration shirked, namely curb consumption, and the Japanese, aware that the balance of economic power has swung to them, are now disposed to help in an election year, both in financing the US deficit and stimulating their domestic economy. But downside risks still predominate.

Calm reigns again at Guinness Peat

Under a benign majority shareholder, Equiticorp of New Zealand, Guinness Peat has entered a phase of relative calm. The fighting is over: Alastair Morton has departed, leaving the founding father and president, Lord Kissin, with rekindled influence. Lord Goodman, wise and well-connected, has again taken up his role as adviser but the man on whose elegant shoulders rests the main responsibility for restoring GPG's status and stock market rating is Geoffrey Bell, aged 48.

An Englishman who made his reputation mostly in the United States, first with Schroders and then with his own investment banking and advisory service, he became the chairman of Guinness Mahon Holdings in October. He has now become executive deputy chairman of GPG — a move marked in promising style on Thursday when three central bankers, Paul Volcker, Lord Richardson, Mauricio Garcia-Araujo (Central Bank of Venezuela) and a cluster of other distinguished guests (and I) lunched at the group's offices.

Mr Bell's immediate concern is to redefine the role of Michael Kerr-Dineen, the chief executive, appoint new non-executive directors to the Guinness Mahon Holdings board and find a chief executive for the merchant bank, Guinness Mahon. However, while GPG is still short of first class management it does not lack a strategy.

With a clean balance sheet and decent profits, Bell has the opportunity to prove that a small merchant bank still has a place on the international financial services scene. If he is successful, Guinness Mahon Holdings, which also covers fund management, stockbroking, market-making and venture capital would be demerged.

The Fenchurch Insurance Holdings subsidiary and Tony Ryan's hugely successful aviation financial services group, GPA, where GPG has 21 per cent, will also be floated at some stage. A phased reduction in GPG's shareholdings would suit Equiticorp for whom a collapse in the New Zealand stock market could not have come at a less opportune time. But the right balance must be struck between the interests of the main shareholders, who also include Robert Maxwell with 14.5 per cent and Lord Kissin, 5.4 per cent, and driving and motivating the companies within GPG's orbit.

A good working model is the American funds and asset management division, Forstmann-Leff and Management Compensation Group, acquired respectively in October 1986 and July last year. GPG is guaranteed minimum earnings for the first three years from two highly motivated businesses. With approaching $5 billion (£2.87 billion) under management, it has developed the art of attracting clients through performance and keeping them through relationships which are both personal and specialized.

BSC liabilities 'will not be written off' at privatization

By Colin Narbrough

The Government, which is keen this autumn to add the British Steel Corporation to the growing list of privatized industries, will not be writing off any of its debts when it is sold off.

Yesterday legislation was published to permit the sale which should bring the Exchequer well over £1 billion.

But while the Government has been prepared to write off debts for other privatization candidates, its room for manoeuvre on steel is restricted by EEC rules governing aid to the industry.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Trade and Industry, commenting on the publication of the British Steel Bill, said: "The time is now right for the corporation to be free to manage its own affairs and to take business decisions on a commercial basis free from political interference."

The financial provisions of the Bill, due for its second reading in the Commons on February 22, and final approval this summer, would not result in any of BSC's debts being written off and the successor company would take on all the corporation's present liabilities, he added.



'No more interference': Trade Minister Kenneth Clarke

The BSC, whose workforce has been cut by more than 140,000 in the past decade to 50,000, is on course for profits of £350 million in the year to the end of March, compared with the large deficits of the early 1980s.

Mr Clarke has made it clear that the Government's firm intention is to sell off the BSC in its entirety and not piecemeal. The Bill forsees the public capital of the corporation being replaced by shares in the successor company, which will initially be wholly-owned by the Crown. The Government will then be able to sell the shares to the public.

Elders IXL gives in to ASE demands

From Richard Battley, Sydney

Elders IXL yesterday capitulated to demands from the Australian Stock Exchange (ASE) and convened a shareholders' meeting, which it hopes will ratify its transactions in the proposed multi-billion-dollar restructuring of BHP.

The international brewing-financing-pastoral conglomerate agreed to hold a meeting on February 24 after the ASE withdrew legal action.

On Wednesday, the ASE applied to the Victoria Supreme Court for an order compelling Elders to hold the meeting, claiming that the disposal of a key asset — Elders' 18.9 per cent stake in BHP — to BHP breached its listing requirements governing transactions between related parties. The ASE maintained that BHP, due to the substantial holding, was an "associate" of Elders.

Mr Gerald O'Byrne, ASE listing officer, said yesterday that the Exchange had simply sought to ensure that shareholders had an opportunity to register their support for, or opposition to, the proposals. He acknowledged, however, that the ASE-Elders compromise meant that one of Elders' largest shareholders, AFP Investment Corp, would be able to vote at the meeting

The BHP restructuring involves the buy-back of 20 per cent of BHP's capital from Mr Robert Holmes à Court's Bell Resources, the cancellation of that capital, and the creation of a joint-venture company between Elders and BHP.

TEMPUS

Consumer spending slowdown casts shadow on stores sector

Stores shares have taken a beating, underperforming the the market by 30 per cent, since the the retail sector peaked in April, 1986.

Many retail analysts are still downgrading their profit estimates for the leading companies, and most are looking for further share price underperformance this year.

The consumer spending boom of the 1980s, which began in earnest with the lifting of hire purchase controls in 1982, has been fuelled by rising disposable incomes and a declining savings ratio, whose most obvious manifestation is the steep rise in consumer debt.

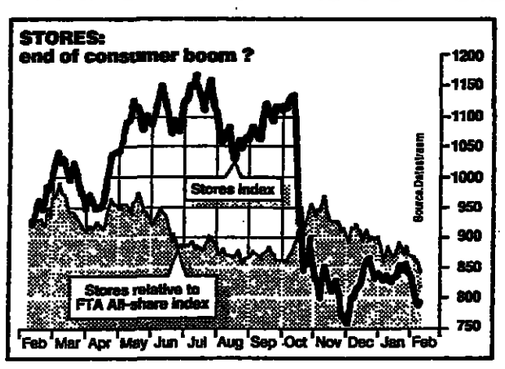
Disposable incomes are expected to keep on rising. But the worry now is that consumers will want to rebuild their savings, or, to put it another way, reduce their indebtedness, especially as rising interest rates mean that the cost of servicing their loans takes up a larger proportion of their incomes.

The savings ratio is now down to 5 per cent of disposable incomes, its lowest level since 1959, and half the level it was at the beginning of the 1980s. This decline in savings mirrors the rapid growth in consumer credit. Meanwhile, retail sales as a percentage of consumer spending have been rising, a trend that is expected to flatten out, and possibly even decline.

Mr Zak Keshavjee, stores analyst at stockbrokers SBCI Savory Milln, argues that the consumer is sated. "Savings are very low," he says, "and the retailers' share of consumer demand is already declining."

He cites the poor level of Christmas sales as the first evidence of a slowdown. "It could have been caused by the stock market crash, but I think the crash has brought forward the date consumers feel the need to rebuild their savings," he says.

As living standards rise, there is a limit to the amount the consumer will spend on



items such as clothing. Longer term, the consumer will look for better quality merchandise. Meanwhile, he will dine out more, or spend more on the home and car, or on leisure activities.

The Budget is likely to give disposable incomes a strong boost. However, the spectre of a growing deficit on the external account will make the Chancellor anxious to limit the extent to which tax cuts are allowed to feed into spending.

So while there may be a case for expecting a modest rally in the stores sector in the run-up to the Budget, this is more likely to prove to be a short-term selling opportunity than a time to buy.

Composites

The composite insurance companies' 1987 results will bear the scars of the October storm, the weak dollar and rate reductions in the US. Despite such problems, the sector sports more buy than sell recommendations, although opinion varies on what to buy and sell.

The stock market crash will have had an adverse impact on solvency, but margins are still historically high and recent generous dividend policies are expected to continue. High yields and reasonably recession-proofed operations make the sector attractive.

General Accident, the Scottish-based insurer, is hot favourite with both Kleinwort Grieveson and Scrimgeour Vickers. Pretax profits are expected to rise to between £200 million and £210 million compared with £123.2 million in 1986. GA's recent decision to withdraw from the Massachusetts' motor market is seen as a positive step in the long term.

The hard hit British motor market looks as though it is finally coming right and more rate rises are scheduled for this year. As Britain's largest motor insurer, GA should be the main beneficiary. It is on a prospective yield of 7 per cent and has the highest solvency margin in the sector.

Guardian Royal Exchange is Wood Mackenzie's best buy because of its low exposure to the US, good dividend prospects and prospective high yield of 7.7 per cent. WoodMac also likes Royal Insurance, although it is Kleinwort's least favourite stock. British storm losses of around £105 million, a high dollar exposure and likely additional reserving in the US are minus factors, but the prospective yield of 7.5 per cent is a plus.

Sun Alliance's storm losses will be the highest, rising to, perhaps, £120 million. Its shares have been strong performers in the last year and its prospective yield is relatively low at 6.5 per cent. Profits are, however, expected to power ahead this year by 75 per cent to around £325 million.

Finally, Commercial Union's recent underperformance makes it look reasonably valued, WoodMac says. The prospective yield is 7.6 per cent and the Spalvins' stake — also a factor at Royal — adds spice.

Shanks & McEwan

Waste management may be a most unglamorous activity, but institutional enthusiasm could give waste specialist Shanks & McEwan a star rating when it comes to the market next week.

With a price-tag of about £140 million and pretax profits for the year ending this March forecast at £9.6 million, the multiple looks to be around 18 — a hefty premium to the market — and the yield around 3.2 per cent.

But, then, Shanks & McEwan may be unique. For a start, it will be the only quoted vehicle on the British stock market which has waste management as its primary activity. It has, furthermore, 81.5 million cubic metres of void space for dumping rubbish and Shanks considers that is now the largest operator of landfill sites in Britain with considerably greater landfill capacity than any of its competitors.

Waste is produced in large and growing quantities every day by every section of the community, at a rate of around 80 million tonnes a year. The annual cost of collection and disposal is some £2.2 billion. More than 90 per cent all waste is used for landfill, the cheapest way of disposing of it.

The company has other activities, principally civil engineering contracting, the construction of industrial buildings and quarrying. But it is on waste management that market attention will focus and if Shanks can sustain its 25 per cent a year earnings growth record, then the rating will be justified.

Birmid Qualcast PLC Shareholders

BLUE CIRCLE'S FINAL OFFER† 380p IN CASH

BIRMID QUALCAST SHARE PRICE 364p (best bid price at midday on 12th February 1988)

FINAL DAY

FINAL OFFER CLOSES AT 1.00 pm ON SATURDAY 13th FEBRUARY 1988

(Unless it has by that time become unconditional, in which case it will be kept open for a further 14 days)

Telephone Mark Breuer at Baring Brothers & Co., Limited (01-283 8833) as early as possible before 11am today if you would like a courier to bring/collect your form of acceptance.

†Unless there is a competing offer

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UNLISTED SECURITIES

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

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GOLD

COMMODITIES

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

MONEY MARKETS

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Portfolio —PLUS NEW— Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches or betters this figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly or accumulator prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gains or loss
1	Hogg Robinson Plc	Drapery,Stores	
2	Medminster	Leisure	
3	Sedbe	Industrials S-Z	
4	Garton Eng	Industrials E-K	
5	Cadbury-Schwp (aa)	Foods	
6	Geest	Foods	
7	Hazlewood Foods	Foods	
8	Ibstock Johnsen	Building,Roads	
9	Pilkington (aa)	Industrials L-R	
10	UEI	Electricals	
11	Speyhawk	Property	
12	Turriff	Building,Roads	
13	Wheatsne	Industrials S-Z	
14	Ladbroke (aa)	Hotels,Caterers	
15	MEL Research	Paper,Print,Adv	
16	Bateys	Foods	
17	Wimpey (George)	Building,Roads	
18	Trinity Intl	Newspapers,Pub	
19	Talbex	Industrials S-Z	
20	Croda	Chemicals,Plas	
21	Blue Circle (aa)	Building,Roads	
22	Dobilier	Electricals	
23	Volex	Electricals	
24	Crosby James	Building,Roads	
25	Smith Ind	Industrials S-Z	
26	Trusthouse Ft (aa)	Hotels,Caterers	
27	Etam	Drapery,Stores	
28	Glass Glover	Foods	
29	Powerscreen	Industrials L-R	
30	Wolverhmpton & D	Breweries	
31	TVS	Cinemas,TV	
32	Sug Furniture	Industrials S-Z	
33	Marley	Building,Roads	
34	Taylor Woodrow	Building,Roads	
35	Bett Bros	Building,Roads	
36	Accord	Newspapers,Pub	
37	Logica	Electricals	
38	BICC (aa)	Electricals	
39	STC (aa)	Electricals	
40	Suter	Industrials S-Z	
41	Mowlem (John)	Building,Roads	
42	Highland Elect	Electricals	
43	Bellwinch	Building,Roads	
44	Jardine Math	Industrials E-K	

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Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1987/88 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. cover yield%	Gross Red. yield%
102¼	94⅞	Exch 10¼% 1988	100¼	..	10.5	9.341
101⅝	96	Treas 08¾% 1988	100	..	9.7	9.358
98½	92⅜	Treas 8% 1988-90	98½	..	9.0	7.174
101¼	94¼	Treas 9½% 1989	100	..	9.5	9.482
105¼	95½	Treas 11¼% 1989	107⅛	..	11.3	9.507
104⅜	97¼	Treas 10½% 1989	101⅛	..	10.4	9.570
103⅜	96¾	Exch 10% 1989	100½	..	9.9	9.588
108	95¾	Exch 10½% 1989	102½	..	10.0	8.679
105⅝	95	Exch 11% 1989	102	..	10.8	9.583
96⅛	89⅛	Treas 9% 1989-92	95¾	..	9.2	7.699
102½	93¾	Treas 09½% 1990	100	..	9.5	9.538
95⅝	88⅜	Treas 9% 1990	95¼	..	9.1	6.691
100⅝	88⅝	Treas 8% 1990	98¼	..	..	8.428
111	91⅛	Treas 13% 1990	108	..	12.0	9.561
106½	91	Treas 11¾% 1990	103¾	..	10.7	9.575
110¾	89½	Exch 12½% 1990	105½	..	11.8	9.575
92⅛	84½	Treas 9% 1990	91¾	..	9.3	7.034
98	91	Treas 8¾% 1990-92	95¾	..	8.4	8.527
105	94⅜	Treas 10% 1990	101¾	..	9.7	9.532
91⅛	80⅝	Exch 2½% 1990	89	..	2.6	6.793
110¾	96¾	Treas C10½% 1991	105½	..	9.8	9.177
111⅝	101⅛	Treas 11¼% 1991	105½	..	11.1	9.568
95⅜	85¾	Treas 9% 1987-91	93¼	..	9.2	9.547
109¾	97	Exch 11¾% 1991	104¾	..	10.5	9.597
90⅝	79⅛	Treas 3% 1991	88	..	3.4	7.076
99	91	Treas 9% 1991	95¾	..	8.4	9.468
116⅛	105	Treas 12¾% 1992	110¾	..	11.6	9.555
109¼	92⅝	Treas 10% 1992	101⅝	..	9.9	9.574
108⅝	99⅝	Treas C10½% 1992	103¾	..	10.2	9.819
86⅝	79⅛	Treas 3% 1992	85½	..	3.5	7.310
99	89⅝	Treas 8% 1992	94½	..	8.4	8.505
117	100⅝	Exch 12¼% 1992	106¾	..	11.2	9.847
121	104⅛	Exch 13⅛% 1992	113¼	..	11.9	9.704

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

107¼	93⅛	Treas 10% 1993	101⅝	..	9.8	9.815
118½	107⅛	Treas 12¾% 1993	111¾	..	11.2	9.850
96⅛	81¼	Fund 9% 1993	91⅝	..	6.5	8.119
125½	107⅝	Treas 13¾% 1994	117⅝	..	11.7	9.738
129⅝	113	Treas 14% 1994	121⅝	..	11.9	9.763
120½	103⅛	Exch 12¼% 1994	112⅝	..	11.1	9.860
124⅜	108¾	Exch 13¼% 1994	116¾	..	11.8	9.853
103½	86⅝	Treas 9% 1994	97⅛	..	9.0	9.278
107⅝	89⅛	Treas 10% 1994	101¾	..	9.8	9.669
118½	104¼	Treas 12% 1995	112⅝	..	10.8	9.820
84½	75⅛	Gas 3% 1990-95	82	..	3.7	6.284
107⅜	87½	Exch 10¼% 1995	102⅝	..	10.0	9.733
123⅛	109	Treas 13¼% 1995	118⅝	..	12.0	9.870
130⅝	114⅛	Treas 14% 1996	121⅝	..	11.5	9.971
102⅝	89	Treas 9% 1992-96	97⅜	..	9.2	9.498
136½	116½	Treas 15¼% 1996	129¼	..	11.8	9.945
130⅜	113⅝	Exch 13¼% 1996	126½	..	11.7	9.940
89⅛	80	Rdmpt 3% 1996	84¾	..	3.5	..
108½	92¾	Conv 10% 1996	101¼	..	9.9	9.788
85⅞	48	Treas 5¾% 1997	81¼	..	..	8.477
122⅝	112⅝	Treas 12¼% 1997	119¾	..	11.1	9.870
111½	95	Exch 10½% 1997	104⅛	..	10.1	9.767
101	86⅛	Treas 8¾% 1997	94½	..	9.3	9.242
140	121	Exch 15% 1997	134½	..	11.5	10.052
96⅞	75¾	Treas 9¼% 1985-98	93¾	..	9.8	9.774
108½	93½	Exch 9¾% 1998	99⅝	..	9.8	9.796
145¾	123½	Treas 15½% 1998	135¾	..	11.4	9.996
122⅝	107⅛	Exch 12% 1998	113¾	..	10.6	9.977
106¾	92½	Treas 10¼% 1998	103¾	..	9.9	9.886
124⅛	107	Exch 12¼% 1999	115¾	..	10.6	9.886
113	96	Treas 10¼% 1999	104¾	..	9.8	9.756
111⅝	93¼	Conv 10¼% 1999	103¼	..	9.9	9.756
97⅝	86⅛	Treas 8% 2000	93¾	..	8.5	9.543
131⅝	114⅝	Treas 13% 2000	121¾	..	10.7	9.916
103¼	88¼	Conv 9% 2000	95¾	..	8.4	9.886
110¾	94½	Treas 10% 2001	102⅛	..	9.8	9.886
105⅝	92	Conv 9¼% 2001	98¾	..	9.1	9.886
134⅝	112⅝	Treas 14% 1998-01	125	..	11.2	10.026
142	121¼	Treas 13¾% 2004-08	131¾	..	10.3	9.686
104⅝	88¼	Treas 9% 2008	99¾	..	9.3	9.367
102¾	84	Treas 8¾% 2008 A	96¾	..	9.1	9.329
94	80¼	Treas 8% 2009	91⅛	..	8.3	9.329
102	85½	Conv 9% 2011	98¾	..	8.3	9.378
69¾	58⅞	Treas 5¼% 2008-12	64¾	..	8.5	9.135
93¾	78½	Treas 7¾% 2012	89¾	..	8.4	9.307
134¼	116½	Exch 12% 2013-17	124⅝	..	9.6	9.439

UNDATED

45⅝	38¼	Consols 4%	42⅝	..	9.4	———
41¾	34¼	War Ln 3½%	37½	..	9.3	———
53	45	Conv 3½%	49⅝	..	7.9	———
34¼	29⅛	Treas 3%	31½	..	9.5	———
39¼	24¾	Consols 2½%	29⅝	..	8.4	———

INDEX-LINKED

134½	124	Treas IL 2% 1988	134⅝	..	..	2.993
119½	108½	Treas IL 2% 1990	119½	..	2.1	0.908
101¼	93½	Treas IL 2% 1992	101⅝	..	2.1	2.358
130⅜	117⅛	Treas IL 2% 1996	129½	..	2.2	3.402
111⅞	95½	Treas IL 2½% 2001	109¾	..	2.3	3.737
111⅝	95½	Treas IL 2½% 2003	109⅝	..	2.3	3.759
113	94½	Treas IL 2% 2006	107½	..	2.2	3.726
127½	99½	Treas IL 2½% 2011	125½	..	2.3	3.758
133½	104	Treas IL 2½% 2016	131½	..	2.3	3.758
96⅛	76⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2013	87¾	..	2.3	3.758
103⅝	83¾	Treas IL 2½% 2016	94½	..	2.3	3.714
101⅜	81⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2020	91⅝	..	2.3	3.714
86¼	69½	Treas IL 2½% 2024	78½	..	2.3	3.563

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
213	188	Allied Irish	210	220	..	9.0	4.2	6.2
1,040	760	Alex. Brkg (Henry)	1,030	1,050	..	27.0	4.0	19.7
178	138	Anz New Z	138	142	+3	..	..	..
131½	94	Bankamerica	94	96	..	..	..	..
236	179	Bank of Ireland	220	230	..	17.0b	7.9	..
17	11	Bank Leumi Israel	15	17	..	..	..	..
358	248	Bank Leumi UK	348	368	..	17.0	4.9	11.3
644	395	Bank Of Scotland	556	562	-4	24.0	4.2	10.3
98	60	Bank Of Wales	85	89	+3	3.3	3.7	11.2
653	413	Barclays	463	467	+3	31.0	6.5	9.2
43	39	Benchmark	38	42	..	2.1	5.2	14.0
610	410	Brown Shipley	550	560	-2	14.0	2.5	10.6
450	290	Cater Allen	430	440	..	27.0	6.1	10.7
79	44	Comyn	61	64	+1	3.9	6.1	15.5
29½	10	Chase Manhattan	10½	10¾	..	0.39	3.6	18.4
94	64	Hambros	88	92	..	7.0	7.6	9.6
178	119	Chase Bros	165	175	-5	8.0	4.6	21.1
71	65	Commercebank	70	..	..	3.0	4.3	..
238	170	Deutsche Bank	230	235	+2	15.0	6.4	12.8
75	51	Equity & Law	70	74	+2	12.0	5.2	7.5
1,450	1,230	First Nat Finance	1,430	1,450	+10	..	..	..
118	85	GRG	98	102	..	23.3	7.8	9.4
245	185	Gerrard Nat	230	240	-1	12.1	4.8	9.9
1,000	750	Hambros	970	990	..	12.1	1.2	..
52	47	HK Shanghai	47	51	-1	3.3b	6.2	18.0
1,000	812	Jessel (Leopold)	920	945	..	50.0	5.3	11.0
147	138	Kleinwort Benson	145	147	..	13.0	8.8	6.7
245	213	Lloyds (aa)	240	243	..	19.0	7.9	6.3
48	37	Lon Scot Bk	46	51	..	2.5	5.4	8.9
288	208	Midland (aa)	280	282	+7	27.0	9.6	6.9
1,000	760	Morgan Grenfell	1,000	1,010	..	14.0	1.4	15.5
1,000	760	Nat Aust Bk	980	990	+3	38.2	3.9	5.7
1,000	760	Nat West (aa)	980	990	+1	28.0	2.9	5.5
123	90	Ormonde	1,060	..	..	6.0	5.7	11.5
278	218	Provident	1,030	1,034	..	18.5	1.8	19.1
75	46	Rea Bros	67	..	+2	2.0	2.9	19.1

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities edge ahead

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began Monday. Dealings end February 19. §Contango day February 22. Settlement day February 29. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 26)

Portfolio —PLUS NEW— Accumulator

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND £8,000
Claims required for 144 points
ACCUMULATOR £48,000
Claims better than 144 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BREWERIES

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
471	398	Allied-Lyons (aa)	433	437	..	16.2	4.8	8.9
10⅞	746½	Bass (aa)	770	775	+12	26.8	3.5	11.5
77	56	Bellhaven	74	76	..	1.3	3.0	15.5
253	124	Boddington	242	245	..	5.1	2.5	15.9
398	337	Brewery (Matthew)	390	395	..	19.2b	7.9	9.3
270	139	Buckleys	260	270	..	4.4	2.4	17.1
494	398	Bullmer (H P)	480	490	-1	8.2	1.7	11.6
195	129	Burtonwood Brew	190	195	..	4.0	2.1	12.2
1,000	760	Clark (Matthew)	1,000	1,010	..	13.7	1.4	12.9
270	202	Dryrock (JA)	260	270	..	4.1	1.5	17.7
270	139	Greenall Whitley	260	270	+1	8.2	3.1	11.3
494	398	Greene King	480	490	+1	8.2	1.7	11.6
390	225	Guinness (aa)	372	374	..	12.6	3.4	9.8
494	423	Higsons & Nemone	480	490	..	20.5	4.4	12.4
197	138	Highland Dist	190	195	..	7.5	3.8	13.8
248	145	Irish Dist	240	245	..	6.0	2.5	..
414	316	Marston Thompson	414	416	..	9.6	2.3	14.5
603	345	Morland	462	466	..	10.0	2.1	18.6
470	131	S/A Breweries	460	470	..	..	..	..
270	178	Scot & Nwc (aa)	264	266	-1½	11.3	4.8	13.1
1,000	760	Tetley	1,000	1,010	..	14.0	1.4	12.9
1,000	760	Vaux Bw	1,000	1,010	..	14.0	1.4	12.9
1,000	760	Watney Mann	1,000	1,010	..	14.0	1.4	12.9
1,000	760	Whitbread 'A' (aa)	1,000	1,010	..	12.5	1.2	13.1
1,000	760	Do 'B'	1,000	1,010	..	12.5	1.2	13.1
494	318	Wolverhmpton & D	494	496	..	12.3	2.4	13.2
477	274	Young 'A'	355	375	..	12.3	3.4	21.3

BUILDING, ROADS

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
360	129	Abbey	190	205	●-5	..	..	8.9
449	292	Amec	345	350	+2	16.6	4.8	13.1
1,000	760	Anglia Sec	990	1,000	..	44.0	4.4	6.5
43	28	Anglo Ust	44	46	..	7.4	3.1	13.3
155	88	Ansells	150	154	●-3	4.3	2.8	11.5
460	310	Arlesford	377	382	..	9.0	2.4	16.5
442	216	Bfd Ind (aa)	390	395	..	18.0	4.6	11.6
310	97	Baggeridge Brick	243	253	..	6.5	2.6	11.5
94	31	Bailey (Ben) Constr	71	74	+1	1.8	2.5	15.1
32	12	Barratt Dev	100	102	..	2.0	2.0	8.5
197	160	Bellway	190	195	..	11.0	5.6	10.1
186	78	Bennerch	182	187	+2	4.1	4.6	8.5
550	178	Berkeley Go	268	272	..	4.6	1.6	15.5
148	98	Bett Bros	140	144	●+1	3.0	4.2	8.4
215	137	Blackwood	210	214	..	7.4	3.5	9.1
574	289	Blue Circle (aa)	417	420	+2	18.5	4.4	11.3
268	230	Bogenbor PLC	268	270	..	8.2	4.5	9.4
253	86	Br Dredging	240	250	..	6.9	5.5	22.4
81	14½	Brunt & Jackson	41	43	..	..	..	..
148	98	Bryant	137	139	..	3.8	3.0	15.1
20½	11	Bulmer & Holtam	19	19½	..	..	..	1.5
104	100	CRH	104	105	..	..	..	..
180	80	Calednonian Rdwy	118	118	..	5.2	4.6	10.8
373	176	Carason	288	296	-5	10.3	3.5	18.0
168	80	Church Charles	168	172	..	7.4	4.3	11.6
205	110	Cooke Bm	200	204	..	9.0	4.4	10.1
265	110	Copson PLC	130	140	..	2.4	1.8	7.8
387	198	Costain	370	375	+5	12.2	4.5	9.9
330	230	Countryside	330	335	..	10.0	3.0	11.8
1,000	760	Crest Nicholson	1,000	1,010	..	52.0	5.1	10.6
118	68	Crosby James	72	77	..	2.4	3.2	..
298	198	Douglas (Iain)	280	283	●..	4.3b	1.5	22.1
136½	79	Ecrib	97	99	●+1	3.4	3.5	19.5
118	118	Federated Hsg	118	120	..	8.0	6.7	10.1
152	75	Firton Gp	78	84	●+1	0.29	0.3	17.7
90	46	Galliford	84	87	..	3.7	5.6	14.8
230	135	Gibbs & Dandy Ord	205	225	..	3.6b	1.5	48.8
1,000	760	Glenrose (MJ)	1,000	1,010	●-30	91.0	9.0	6.6
193	162	Harrison Ind	182	186	..	8.2	4.5	9.6
353	171	Henderson	340	350	..	11.6	3.4	31.8
151	74	Hewden-Stuart	116	120	..	2.7	2.3	16.0
286	230	Heywood Williams	282	287	..	12.0	4.2	10.0
638	294	Higgs & Hill	307	315	●+1	10.5	3.4	14.9
85½	41	Howard Hldgs	80	83	●+1	1.9	2.3	11.3
248	82	Ibstock Johnsen	165	170	+3	8.0	4.8	17.4
138	58	Jarvis (J) & Sons	82	86	..	2.0	2.4	..
200	170	Laing (J)	200	205	+1	8.2	4.0	9.6
414	217	Do 'A'	205	210	+1	8.2	3.9	9.6
194	79	Lawrence (Walter)	128	138	+1	5.8	4.6	12.4
77½	34	Lilley (FJG)	38	41	..	..	..	..
314	162	Lovell (YJ)	222	225	●..	6.9	3.1	11.1
466	246	Magnet (aa)	460	465	●-2	8.6	3.5	15.8
413	293	Manders	375	380	-4	14.3	3.8	28.1
147	113	Marley	147	149	+3	8.0	4.1	17.0
247	142	Marshalls (Halifax)	247	249	+2	8.0	3.2	17.8
114	64	Maunders (J)	80	84	+2	2.6	3.2	13.2
577	365	McAlpine (Alfred)	563	565	+2	20.4	4.1	11.5
393	303	McDonald & S	393	395	+7	9.5	2.4	13.9
1,000	760	Meyer Int	1,000	1,010	..	14.0	1.4	12.9
171	38	Miller (Stanley)	41	43	..	1.7	3.9	21.1
541	305½	Mowlem (John)	523	527	●-2	23.3	5.9	11.1
12½	7	Newarthill	11	12	..	1.0	8.3	5.5
241½	166	Norcros	230	235	..	9.0	3.8	11.4
165	88	Northern Ind	165	170	..	7.4	2.3	15.6
423	240	Pauling	370	380	..	17.0	4.5	8.4
233	98	Pochin	230	240	..	7.1	3.0	19.8
278	240	Press (Frank)	278	282	..	12.0	4.3	9.2
1,000	760	Rmc Gp (aa)	1,000	1,010	..	14.0	1.4	12.9
167	69	Rame Ind	167	169	..	1.9	1.1	18.3
1,000	760	Redland (aa)	1,000	1,010	..	18.7	1.9	11.3
1,000	760	Rotamat	1,000	1,010	..	14.0	1.4	12.9
1,000	760	Rugby Group	1,000	1,010	..	14.0	1.4	12.9
316	175	Scottish Persons	232	234	..	6.3	2.6	15.6
136	66	Shapp & Fisher	132	136	..	2.4	1.8	18.5
117	57	Smart (J)	117	121	..	2.2	1.8	15.6
210	91	Stanley	210	215	+11	11.3	5.3	14.8
368	190	Tarmac (aa)	347	349	..	8.7	4.0	13.8
497	197	Tilley Group	197	203	-2	9.0	4.4	14.1
423	240	Travis & Arnold	370	380	..	7.4	2.3	15.6
233	98	Trent	230	240	●+7	3.6	1.2	19.8
147	110	Tysan Bm	282	285	+2	13.6	5.2	9.1
515	276	Wates	515	520	..	17.1	3.3	12.9
306	178	Wood Group	145	155	..	3.4	2.3	16.9
307	197	Wood Hldgs	193	173	-1	3.4	2.0	10.6
1,000	760	Wyndpeppe & D	1,000	1,010	..	14.0	1.4	12.9
1,000	760	Yeoman Dale	1,000	1,010	..	14.0	1.4	12.9
355	274	Young 'A'	375	..	..	12.3	3.4	21.3

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
173	94	Allied Colloids	126	128	●..	2.8	2.2	17.5
648	393	Amersham	478	482	-1	17.6	3.7	19.6
256	100	BTP	133	143	r +3	7.9	5.7	14.8
1,269	795	Bayer DM50	850	..	+½	700	8.2	..
238	128	Bogden	158	168	-1	10.1	6.5	16.2
313	135	Chemring	280	286	+1	5.6	2.0	12.1
446	273	Coalite	360	367	+7	12.3	3.4	10.3
468	213	Coates Bros	388	392	..	10.6	2.8	13.6
48	19	Do 'A' (non-v)	38	39	..	10.6	2.8	13.6
273	165	Cory (Horace)	184	186	+2	11.5	6.2	16.2
283	154	Croda	184	186	●+2	..	..	14.7
148	98	Do Old	147	153	●-1	6.1	4.1	12.2
168	116	Elec & Everard	165	170	..	6.7	4.0	13.1
323	114	Evode	147	153	●..	6.1	4.1	12.2
268	156	Fosseo-Minerp	238	247	-1	13.4	5.3	13.6
268	156	Halstead (James)	238	247	..	9.9	3.9	13.6
168	105	Hickson	154	160	+3	5.7	3.5	19.2
116	76½	Hoechst DM50	84½	..	..	..	..	..
19½	9½	Imp Chem Ind (aa)	19½	19¾	..	52.1	5.0	10.5
587	282	Laporte (aa)	360	367	-5	14.9	3.9	21.0
240	111	Leigh	182	187	..	8.3	3.4	23.7
24½	11	Mersk Hydro	14½	..	..	0.3	..	..
220	120	Pirra	153	158	..	7.0	3.7	19.2
278	150	Rotaprint Hldgs	270	280	..	5.8	2.0	26.3
252½	140	Rotnold	182	184	..	4.1	2.2	19.0
490	52	Scapa	52	54	..	..	..	..
188	54	Sutcliffe Speakman	158	160	-2	..	..	26.4
485	258	Wolverhampton Rok	265	285	..	14.0	5.1	10.6
241	163	Yorkshire Chem	247	251	-1	7.5	3.0	27.9
200	61½	Yule Catto	165	171	..	4.1	2.7	15.8

CINEMAS, TV

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
549	246	Anglia TV 'A'	413	427	+1	19.9	4.7	9.3
685	370	Central TV	555	570	..	24.7	4.4	14.4
1,575	970	Cinemas	1,450	1,475	..	37.0	2.5	11.2
282	203	ITV Group	245	248	..	13.4	5.4	7.4
216	88	LWT Hldgs	148	158	-1	8.0	5.2	9.2
284	208	Scot TV	248	252	+1	21.2	8.4	6.1
454	288	TVS	347	353	+1	17.1	4.8	9.2
191	45	TSW	68	74	..	3.7	5.2	10.9
342	260	Thames TV	338	348	-3	17.0	5.1	10.1
556	385	Tyne-Tees TV	556	561	-3	30.0	5.5	9.1
180	74	Ustar TV	80	85	..	5.1	6.1	9.3
240	150	Yorkshire TV	220	230	..	11.0	4.9	9.3

DRAPERY, STORES

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
463	205	Alexon	337	347	..	8.9	2.5	15.1
136	14½	Amber Day	39

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A step by step way into equities using a building society account

In volatile stockmarket conditions, timing your investment becomes more important – and more difficult. The Mercury Capital Investment Plan helps to solve this problem of timing and so reduces the risks of stockmarket investment.

The Plan consists of a lump sum investment in a building society share account which in turn funds a Mercury Unit Trust Savings Plan over a two year period. It combines the advantages of regular investment over a period of time with a single lump sum investment.

You invest £1,000 or more in the Capital Investment Plan, which is then placed in a special account on your behalf with the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society. A Unit Trust Savings Plan account is then opened in your name, linked to the Mercury unit trust of your choice, and each month one twenty-fourth of your investment is transferred into your Savings Plan account.

The building society deposit will earn interest at a rate 1 per cent. above the Society's normal Ordinary Share rate. This interest will be accumulated and will be invested in your Savings Plan account at the same time as the final monthly instalment.

In addition, on completion of the two year period, Mercury will add to your Plan extra units equivalent to 1 per cent. of your total initial investment.

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MERCURY
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS

*Not applicable to residents of the Republic of Ireland

FAMILY MONEY/INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

	Nominal rate	Compounded return at tax rates 27%	45%	60%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS							
Ordinary Dep A/c'	3.00	3.02	2.28	1.65	1 min	0-7 day	—
Girobank	2.50	2.52	1.90	1.38	1 min	7 day	01-600 6020
Fixed Term Deposits:							
National Westminster	5.88	5.88	4.43	3.22	10,000-24,999	1 mth	01-726 1000
" " "	6.37	6.37	4.80	3.50	10,000-24,999	6 mth	01-726 1000
Midland	5.46	5.46	4.11	2.99	10,000-24,999	1 mth	01-260 8000
" " "	6.02	6.02	4.55	3.30	10,000-24,999	6 mth	01-260 8000
BUILDING SOCIETIES							
Ordinary A/c	4.00	4.04	3.04	2.21	1 min	—	—
Britannia²	6.15	6.15	4.63	3.37	250 min	—	—
Northern Rock²	6.35	6.35	4.78	3.48	500 min	—	—
Cheltenham & Glouc²	6.75	6.75	5.09	3.70	5,000 min	—	—
Britannia & North Rock²	7.05	7.05	5.31	3.86	10,000 min	—	—
Northern Rock²	7.30	7.30	5.50	4.20	20,000 min	—	—
Nationwide Non-Resid²	8.75	8.75	8.75	8.75	1 min	—	—
MONEY FUNDS							
Aitken Hume Monthly Inc	5.84	5.79	4.36	3.17	1,000 min	—	01-638 6070
Allied Arab HICA	6.49	6.69	5.04	3.67	3,000 min	—	01-629 6802
Bank Of Scotland	6.13	6.31	4.74	3.46	2,500 min	—	01-626 8060
Barclays High Rate Dep	6.13	6.26	4.72	3.43	1,000 min	—	01-626 1567
" " "	6.25	6.40	4.82	3.51	10,000 min	—	01-626 1567
Britannia High Interest	6.02	6.19	4.66	3.39	2,500 min	—	01-588 2777
Citibank Money Mkt Plus‡	6.00	6.17	4.65	3.38	2,000 min	—	01-741 4941
HFC Trust & Savings	6.75	6.92	5.21	3.79	5,000 min	—	01-236 8391
Henderson Cheque A/c	6.13	6.31	4.74	3.46	2,500 min	—	01-638 5757
L & G High Int Deposit	6.00	6.09	4.59	3.34	1,000 min	1 mth	01-388 3211
Lloyds Investment A/c‡⁵	6.70	6.70	5.05	3.67	5,000 min	3 mth	01-407 1000
Lloyds HICA‡	5.54	5.54	4.17	3.04	1,000 min	—	01-407 1000
M&G HICA	5.74	5.89	4.44	3.23	2,500 min	—	01-626 4588
Midland HICA	6.00	6.14	4.63	3.36	2,000 min	—	0742 52800
" "	6.02	6.35	4.78	3.48	10,000 min	—	0742 52800
Nat West Special Reserve	6.13	6.27	4.72	3.44	2,000 min	—	01-726 1000
" " "	6.25	6.40	4.82	3.51	10,000 min	—	01-726 1000
Oppenheimer Money Mngmt	5.55	5.68	4.28	3.11	1,000 min	1 mth	01-236 9362
" " "	5.46	5.57	4.20	3.05	10,000 min	1 mth	01-236 9362
Phillips & Drew HICA	5.83	5.96	4.49	3.27	2,500 min	—	01-628 9771
Provincial Trust Chq A/c	6.58	6.79	5.12	3.72	1,000 min	—	061-9289011
Royal Bk Of Scot Prem A/c	6.02	6.16	4.64	3.38	2,500 min	—	031-5570201
S & P Classic	5.50	5.65	4.26	3.10	500 min	—	0708 766966
Schroder Wagg	5.27	5.40	4.07	2.96	2,500 min	—	0705 827733
Tyndall Call	6.21	6.36	4.79	3.48	2,500 min	—	0272 732241
Tyndall 7-day	6.13	6.27	4.72	3.44	2,500 min	—	0272 732241
UDT 7-day	5.93	6.06	4.57	3.32	5,000 min	7 day	01-626 4661
Western Trust	6.16	6.34	4.78	3.47	2,500 min	1 mth	0752 261161
NATIONAL SAVINGS							
Ordinary A/c³	5.00	5.12	3.85	2.80	1-10,000	8 day	041-6494555
Investment A/c*	10.00	7.30	5.50	4.00	5-100,000	1 mth	041-6494555
Income Bond*	10.50	7.67	5.78	4.20	2,000-100,000	3 mth	0253 66151
Deposit Bond*	10.50	7.67	5.78	4.20	100-100,000	3 mth	041-6494555
33rd Issue Cert*†	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	25-1,000	8 day	091-3864900
Yearly Plan†	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	20-200/mth	14 day	091-3864900
General Extension Rate†	6.51	6.51	6.51	6.51			
Retail Price Index: Dec	103.3	103.3	103.3	103.3			
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS							
General portfolio	7.50	7.50	5.65	4.11	1,000 min	1 yr	0992 31971
Premium life	7.60	7.60	5.73	4.16	1,000 min	2 yrs	0444 458721
Premium life	7.60	7.60	5.73	4.16	1,000 min	3 yrs	0444 458721
Canterbury life	7.75	7.75	5.84	4.25	1,000 min	4 yrs	0227 57375
Financial Assurance	8.25	8.25	6.22	4.52	2,000 min	5 yrs	01-367 6000
LOCAL AUTHORITY TOWN HALL BONDS							
Northampton	6.58	6.58	4.96	3.61	500 min	1 yr	01-407 2767
Kirklees	6.75	6.75	5.09	3.70	500 min	2 yrs	01-407 2767
Kirklees	6.75	6.75	5.07	3.70	500 min	3 yrs	01-407 2767
Swansea	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.71	500 min	4 yrs	01-407 2767
Swansea	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.71	500 min	5 yrs	01-407 2767
Swansea	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.71	500 min	6 yrs	01-407 2767
Swansea	6.77	6.77	5.10	3.71	500 min	7 yrs	01-407 2767
Vale of Glamorgan	5.75	5.75	4.33	3.15	500 min	8 yrs	01-407 2767
Bristol	7.25	7.25	5.46	3.97	1,000 min	9 yrs	01-407 2767
Bristol	7.25	7.25	5.46	3.97	1,000 min	10 yrs	01-407 2767
FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS							
Sterling	7.72	—	—	—	—	7 day	0481 26741
US Dollar	5.71	—	—	—	—	7 day	0481 26741
Yen	2.88	—	—	—	—	7 day	0481 26741
D Mark	2.17	—	—	—	—	7 day	0481 26741
French Franc	6.29	—	—	—	—	7 day	0481 26741
Swiss Franc	0.06	—	—	—	—	7 day	0481 26741

*Interest taxable, paid gross † Tax free ‡ Higher returns for larger balances ¹ Major banks: Lloyds 2.8% & Midland 2.75%. ² Societies chosen based on high street presence, higher rates can sometimes be obtained from smaller societies - contact Chase de Vere Moneyline 01-404 5766 ³ 2.5 per cent for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less ⁴ Additional holdings up to £5,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates ⁵ Charge for instant access

KEY RATES

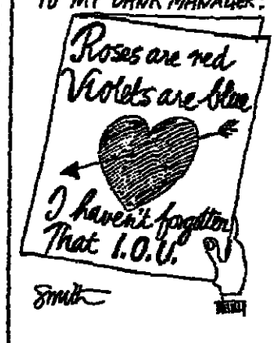
Retail Prices Index (Jan '87 to Jan '88)
+3.3%

Mortgage rate*
10.0%-10.5%

Bank base rate
9.00%

Bank prime overdraft rate*
12%-17% APR

TO MY BANK MANAGER:



Personal loan rate*
20.00% APR

Credit card rate*
23.1% APR

Hire purchase rate*†
26% APR

Bank deposit account
3.00%

Building society ordinary account
4%

High-interest cheque account*
6.00%

Holiday exchange rates*

Spanish peseta	197.00
French franc	9.89
Greek drachma	235
Italian lira	2150

* Typical rates
† £1,000 over 12 months
APR = annual percentage rate

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	9.00%
Adam & Company	9.00%
BCCI	9.00%
Consolidated Crds	9.00%
Co-operative Bank	8.50%
C. Hoare & Co	9.00%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	9.00%
Lloyds Bank	9.00%
Nat Westminster	9.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland	9.00%
TSB	9.00%
Citibank NA	9.00%

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

AETNA LIFE INSURANCE
4/01, St John Street, London EC1V 4QE
01-837 8494
Life Funds

	Bid	Offer	Weekly ch'ng	Yld
Squirrel	11.55	12.15	+0.01	
Bear	11.64	12.26	-0.23	
Owl	14.23	14.98	-0.37	
Bull	12.83	13.51	-0.16	
Stag	13.16	13.86	-0.11	
Gat Edged	11.63		-0.10	
Deposit	10.64			
Pensions				
Squirrel	12.93	13.62	+0.02	
Bear	13.38	14.09	-0.27	
Owl	17.19	18.10	-0.44	
Bull	15.19	15.99	-0.22	
Stag	13.25	15.06	-0.14	
Gat Edged	12.35		-0.09	
Deposit	11.44		-0.01	
Exempt App Mixed	168.5	172.0	-2.67	

ABBEY LIFE
90, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL
0202 292373

Property Fund Inc	221.7	233.4	-0.3	
Do Accum	221.7	233.4	-0.4	
Equity Fund Income	109.8	115.6	-2.1	
Do Accum	121.5	127.9	-2.3	
Selective Fund	265.4	279.4	-2.2	
Money Fund	257.7	249.5	+0.3	
Prop Fd Ser 4	251.3	264.6	-0.2	
Equity Ser 4	125.4	132.0	-1.9	
Man Ser 4	348.2	366.6	-3.2	
Conv Ser 4	212.2	223.4	+0.3	
Money Ser 4	211.9	223.1	+0.2	
Fixed Int Fd Ser 4	204.7	215.5	-1.9	
American Ser 4	243.0	256.8	+3.0	
High Inc Ser 4	362.2	370.8	-0.8	
Indexed Inv Ser 4	117.2	123.6	+0.2	
Japan Ser 4	261.0	274.8	+2.8	

ALBANY LIFE
3, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar
0707 42311

Equity Fd Acc	824.7	868.1	-17.2	
European Fd Accum	179.2	188.7	+0.3	
Fixed Int Acc	332.9	347.1	+1.2	
Gtd Money Fd Acc	216.7	228.1	+0.2	
Ind Man Fd Acc	331.6	349.3	+1.0	
Int Fud Int Fd Acc	198.4	208.8	+0.5	
Japan Fund	251.6	264.4	+3.6	
Nth American Fd Acc	150.2	158.0	-0.1	
Prop Fd Acc	242.2	254.9	+0.4	
Multiple Inv Acc	570.2	600.2	-5.4	

ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE
Allied Dunbar Assurance Swindon SN1 1EL
0793-26291

Fixed Int Dep Accum	240.3	253.0	+0.2	
Equity Accum	681.7	717.6	-5.6	
Property Accum	381.3	401.4	+2.1	
Far East Accum	179.1	187.9	+0.3	
Managed Capital	317.3	334.1	+1.0	
Do Accum	540.9	569.4	-3.0	
Overseas Accum	446.2	469.7	-2.4	
Gilt Edged Accum	256.7	272.4	-1.9	
Amer Equity Accum	342.5	360.6	+2.3	
Amer Man Accum	163.2	171.8	+2.3	
Amer Prop Accum	126.2	132.9	+0.3	

BALTIC ASSURANCE
25-26 Albemarle Street, London W1X 4AD
01-493 9899

Managed Growth	291.0	306.3	-3.65	
Managed Income	130.4	137.2	+0.03	
Intermittent	171.4	180.4	-0.75	
High Income	195.1	205.4	-4.28	
Income & Growth	360.7	379.4	+8.46	
Basic Resource	105.3	110.8	-5.64	
American	146.4	154.1	+0.78	
Japan & General	455.6	479.6	+1.67	
Special Situations	234.3	246.7	-10.23	

BARCLAYS LIFE
252, Romford Rd London E7 8JB
01-534 5544

Equity Accum	500.9	527.3	-8.3	
Managed	428.4	442.8	-5.3	
Gilt Edged Accum	226.6	238.6	-1.3	
Do Initial	191.9	202.1	-1.1	
International Accum	254.4	267.8	+4.4	
Do Initial	214.9	226.3	+3.7	
Managed Accum	353.5	346.3	-1.9	
Do Initial	277.7	292.4	-0.8	
Money Accum	188.1	198.1	+0.2	
Do Initial	153.7	161.8		
Property Accum	231.2	243.4	+0.2	
Do Initial	192.8	203.0		
American Accum	151.9	159.9	-1.4	
Do Initial	129.9	136.8	-1.7	
Australia Accum	105.1	110.7	-2.2	
Do Initial	90.2	95.0	-2.9	
Financial Accum	225.3	237.7	-4.1	
Do Initial	192.3	202.6	-3.7	
500 Accum	270.9	285.2	-4.5	
Do Initial	228.6	240.7	-3.7	
Japan &Gen Acc 2	378.5	398.5	+7.9	
Do Initial 2	317.4	334.2	+6.6	
Income Accum	284.3	299.3	-2.3	
Do Initial	242.2	254.9	-2.4	
Leisure Accum	179.5	189.0	-3.2	
Special Sits Accum	140.3	147.7	-2.5	
Unav Tech Accum	98.1	103.3	+3.0	
Do Initial	85.6	90.5	+2.5	

BLACK HORSE LIFE
Mayfordstown House Chatham
8 Kent ME4 4JF 0634 405151

The Managed Fund	416.56		-5.39	
Income Fund	417.5	439.5	-3.93	
Extra Income Fund	399.4	420.4	-4.72	
Worldwide Growth Fd	294.0	309.4	+1.76	
Balanced Fund	352.8	371.4	-5.55	
Smlr Cos & Rc Fd	539.2	561.2	+6.12	
Int Technology Fund	352.3	339.3	-4.82	
N Amer & Gen Fund	205.4	216.2	-1.64	
Energy Int Fund	121.5	127.9	+1.03	
Pacific Basin Fund	252.9	266.2	-0.10	
German Growth Fd	95.01	100.0	+2.16	
Japan Growth Fd	165.1	173.8	+1.19	
The UK Gth Fd	127.5	134.2	+6.69	
Conti Euro Gth	71.12	74.87	+0.21	
Property Fund	205.6	216.5	+0.19	
Fixed Interest Fund	206.1	216.9	-1.04	
Cash Fund	183.0	192.6	+0.19	
Managed Inv Func	264.4	278.4	-3.61	
Nth Amer Recov	103.4	108.8	+0.29	

CANADA LIFE
2-6 High St, Potters Bar, Herts
0 Bar 51122

Equity Growth	156.7			
Managed	185.8	195.6	-0.8	
Property	147.3	148.8		
Gilt & Fixed Int	147.3	155.1	-0.7	
Index-Linked	142.1	150.0	-1.1	

CANNON ASSURANCE
1 Olympic Way Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB
01-902 8876

	Bid	Offer	Weekly ch'ng	Yld
Equity Units	£98.26		-1.43	
Property Units	£25.88		+0.03	
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£35.87	37.86	-0.04	
2nd Equity Accum	348.7	370.1	-6.3	
2nd High Inc/Accum	334.7	354.2	-1.0	
2nd Property Accum	248.0	260.3	-0.3	
2nd Managed 2 Acc	114.9	121.6	-0.4	
2nd Managed Acc	255.9	270.9	-0.3	
2nd Managed 4 Acc	108.0	114.3	+0.6	
2nd Deposit Accum	186.9	197.8	+0.1	
2nd Gilt Accum	196.4	207.8	-1.7	
2nd Asset Accum	207.6	219.7	+10.1	
2nd Intl Money Ac	189.4	200.4	-0.1	
2nd Index Accum	112.5	119.5	+0.9	
2nd Far East Accum	214.7	226.7	+1.2	
2nd Global Accum	79.9	84.8	+1.2	
2nd Euro Accum	77.2	81.7	+1.0	
2nd Japan Accum	149.0	157.7	+5.2	
2nd Hermage Acc	91.9	97.2		
2nd Intl Curr Bond	92.0	97.4	-0.1	

CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE
Surrey House, 500, Avebury Blvd.
Cntl Milton Keynes MK9 2LA
0908-606101

Property Fund	140.4	147.8		
Money Fund	244.4	257.3	+0.3	
Managed Fund	423.3	445.6	-2.5	
Equity Fund	301.6	317.5	-4.6	
Fixed Interest Fund	162.3	170.9	-0.3	
Far East Fund	336.0	248.5	-2.8	
Nth Amer Fund	121.6	128.3	-2.1	
Nat Resources Fund	173.6	182.8	-2.3	
Alexandra Fund	108.2	113.9	-4.0	

CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH
0272 290566
Assurance Funds

Mixed	145.1	152.8	-0.2	
Equity	180.5	190.0	-2.4	
Property	140.8	148.3	+0.6	
Gilt & Fixed Int	124.7	131.3	-1.2	
Indexed Secs	98.7	103.9	-0.2	
Cash	118.0	124.3	+0.2	
Nth American	97.5	102.7	+4.5	
Far East	140.7	148.2	+2.7	
International	112.7	118.7	+1.9	
Special Sits	152.8	160.9	-3.5	
Int Income	157.3	165.6	-0.9	
European	131.2	138.2	+1.9	
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	142.0	149.5	-0.1	
Equity	169.4	168.9	-1.8	
Property	133.0	140.1	+0.1	
Gilt & Fixed Int	137.5	144.8	-2.5	
Index Linked	104.0	109.5	-0.1	
Cash	131.0	137.9	+0.2	
Nth American	104.6	110.2	+4.8	
Far East Acc	184.4	194.1	+4.8	
International Acc	129.2	135.9	+2.5	
Special Sits	216.4	227.8	+1.0	
European Flex	156.9	165.2	+2.8	
Cash	118.0	124.3	+0.2	
Nth American	97.5	102.7	+4.5	
Far East	140.7	148.2	+2.7	
International	112.7	118.7	+1.9	
Special Sits	152.8	160.9	-3.5	
Int Income	157.3	165.6	-0.9	
American Inc	109.6	105.2	+2.5	
European	131.2	138.2	+1.9	

COLONIAL MUTUAL
34 Ludgate Hill, London EC4P 4BD
01-248 9881

CML U Ass:Key	162.2		+0.1	
CML U Ass:Pacemkr	200.86		1.96	
CML U Ass:Cash	134.9	142.0		
CML U Ass:Equity	307.0	323.1		
CML U Ass:Pr	241.5	215.3		
CML U Ass:Mngd	235.1	247.5		
CML U Ass:Prop	292.5	307.9		
CML(Pen):Cash Cap	135.1	142.2	+0.02	
CML(Pen):Cash Inv	125.6	164.0	+0.19	
CML(Pen):Equ Cap	619.5	652.1	14.38	
CML(Pen):Equ Inv	714.2	751.9	16.08	
CML(Pen):Fixd Cap	327.3	339.9	-1.11	
CML(Pen):Fixd Inv	284.1	275.9	-1.10	
CML(Pen):Indx Cap	134.6	141.7	+1.31	
CML(Pen):Indx Inv	155.2	163.4	+1.51	
CML(Pen):Man Cap	318.9	335.6	-5.23	
CML(Pen):Man Inv	365.4	384.7	-7.04	

COMMERCIAL UNION
St Helens, 1 Undershaft, EC3
01-283 7500

Var Ann Accum (5)	292.79		-5.55	
Var Ann (5)	99.01		-0.84	
Prime- Managed	238.0	250.6	-1.0	
Prime- UK Equity	280.1	296.1	-2.9	
Prime- Int Equity	175.9	185.2	+2.3	
Prime- Property	141.0	148.5	+0.5	
Prime- Fixed Interest	153.7	161.8	-0.6	
Prime- Index-Linked	102.8	108.3	-0.1	
Prime- Cash	129.9	136.8		

CONFEDERATION LIFE
30 Chancery Lane London WC2A 1HE
01-242 0282

Managed Fund	653.7	688.1	+9.4	
Equity Fund	919.2	967.6	+12.2	
PIP Fund	£27.39		+0.13	

CROWN FINANCIAL
Crown House Woking Gu2. 1XW
04862 6033

Life Managed Acc.	352.7	342.8	-5.4	
Life Fixed Int Accum	241.2	254.0	-3.7	
Life Equity Accum	403.7	424.9	-9.7	
Life Money Accum	196.6	206.8	-0.2	
Life Inv Trust Accum	396.9	419.6	-4.8	
Life Int Accum	292.4	315.1	-1.7	
Life High Inc Accum	434.7	457.5	+1.8	
Life Property Accum	192.8	202.9		
Crown Pnl Inv A	841.4	771.6		
Sheen Equity	586.8	619.7		
DBS Managed	213.3	224.5		
Growth Accum	218.5	230.0		

CRUSADER INSURANCE
Reigate Surrey RH2 8BL
07372 42424

Measured part	35.7	38.1	-0.2	
Performance Pns	105.1	111.2	-0.5	
Main Profit Part	105.1	111.2	-0.1	
UK Opportunity	12.4	16.5	-1.3	
Euro Opportunity	16.2	18.4	-1.5	

DAVIS LIFE & PENSIONS
Davis House, Chertsey Rd, Woking, Surrey GU21 5JX
04862 20202

Managed Fund	1000	1053		
Property Fund	1000	1053		
Fixed Interest Fund	1000	1053		
Equity Fund	1000	1053		
Cash Fund	1000	1053		
Deposit Fund	1000	1053		
Overseas Fund	1000	1053		
Pension Managed	1000	1053		
Pension Property	1000	1053		
Pension Fixed Int	1000	1053		
Pension Equity	1000	1053		
Pension Cash	1000	1053		
Pension Overseas	1000	1053		

DEVONSHIRE LIFE
Exeter Business Park, Exeter EX5 1DS
0392 52155

Inv Trust Cap	395.6		-2.4	
Do Accum	486.8		-2.7	
Property Cap	141.7		-0.1	
Do Accum	174.8			
Fixed Interest Cap	181.4		-1.9	
Do Accum	188.4		-1.9	
International Cap	187.3		+0.5	
Do Accum	208.5		+0.2	
Gld Deposit Cap	149.3			
Do Accum	182.2		+0.1	
Flexible Cap	144.0		-4.9	
Do Accum	302.4		-4.9	
Moneymaker Fund	243.1		-2.6	
Capital Growth Fund	788.8		-13.9	

DRAKE & MORGAN
Three Quays Tower Hill EC3R 6BQ
01-626-4588

Amer Bond Acc	179.3	188.4	+3.6	
Amer Rec Bond	215.2	226.0	+6.5	
Amer Smlr Co Bond	77.5	81.4	+1.6	
Australasia Bond	102.6	108.8	-2.7	
Commodity Bond	125.6	132.0	-3.4	
Deposit Bond Acc	231.6	243.4	+0.2	
Equity Bond Accum	671.5	705.1	-7.4	
European Bond Acc	158.3	166.3	+1.6	
Euro Yld Bd Accum	372.7	391.5	-8.7	
Far East Bd Accum	167.3	175.8	-1.2	
Gilt Bond Accum	262.2	275.4	-2.7	
Gold Bond Accum	95.2	100.7	+2.4	
High Yield Bond	91.8	96.5	+0.2	6.27
Index-Linked Gt Bd	127.5	133.9	+0.5	
International Bond	354.7	372.6	+0.5	
Japan Bond Acc	235.6	237.5	+0.6	
Japan Smlr Co Acc	202.8	213.0	+1.9	
Managed Bonds	458.6	481.7	-3.8	
Prop Bond Accum	299.8	314.9	+0.2	
Rec Bond Accum	349.7	367.2	-11.1	
Family Bond Accum	650.3			

EAGLE STAR/BRITANNIC
Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ
0242 221311

Secure Fund	111.4	117.3	+0.1	
Blue Chip Fund	140.0	147.4	-1.5	
Adventurous Fund	141.7	154.9	-0.5	
Performance Fund	150.7	158.0	-0.8	

EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND
1 Threadneedle St, London EC2
01-588 1212

Eagle/Midland Units	169.8	176.0	-2.7	4.66

EQUITY & LAW
Amersham Road, High Wycombe
0494 33877

UK Equities Fund	471.5	496.3	-7.0	
Higher Yielding Fund	498.3	522.4	-7.4	
Property Fund	311.2	327.5	+0.3	
Fixed Interest Fund	259.0	272.6	-0.8	
Index-Linked Sec Fd	106.5	112.1	+0.9	
Gld Deposit Fund	149.5	156.8	+2.2	
Nth American Fund	197.6	207.9	+5.3	
Far East Fund	321.9	338.8	+1.2	
Europe Fund	160.9	169.3	+2.3	
International Fund	296.1	280.1	+0.9	
Mixed Fund	360.0	378.9	-0.8	

FRIENDS' PROVIDENT
Castle Street Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH
0722 336242

Managed (Mixed)	164.2	172.9	-1.0	
UK Equity	197.9	208.4	+3.5	
Stewardship	207.5	218.5	-3.8	
Overseas Equity	156.2	163.4	+2.9	
North American	79.3	82.5	+1.9	
Pacific Basin	87.5	92.2	+3.8	
European	89.8	95.1	+0.9	
Property	155.1	163.3	+0.4	
Fixed Interest	138.8	146.3	-1.2	
Index Linked	100.7	106.0	+0.7	
Cash	126.9	133.6	+0.2	

GT MANAGEMENT
16 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7DJ
01-628 8131

GT Plan Bond Fund	183.6	193.3	+0.4	
GT Plan High Yield	219.5	231.1	-3.5	
GT Plan Far East	201.1	211.7	+0.7	
GT Plan North Amer	109.4	115.2	+1.6	
GT Plan UK & GE	232.9	245.2	-4.2	
GT Plan Worldwide	229.1	241.2	+0.8	

GENERAL ACCIDENT LINKED LIFE
20/26 Addiscombe Road Croydon CR9 5BS
01-686 9411

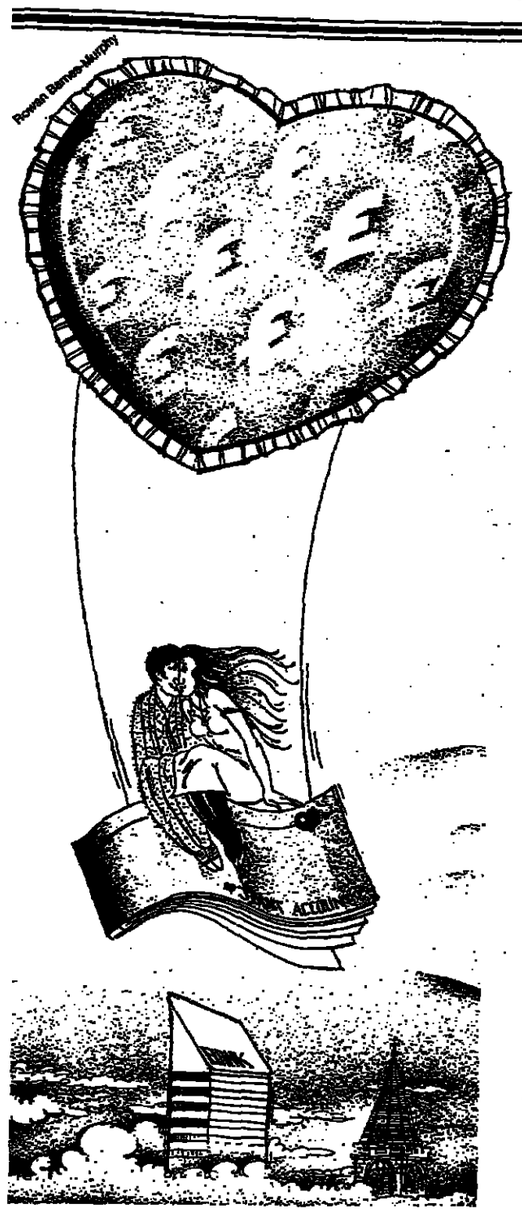
Managed	119.1	125.4	-0.7	
UK Equity	165.4	174.1	-2.2	
Fixed Int	133.8	130.3	-0.8	
Index-Linked	99.3	104.7	+0.1	
Cash Deposit	113.7	119.7	+0.1	
Property	120.1	126.4	+0.4	
International	97.5	102.6	+0.3	
American	77.1	81.5	+1.2	
Japan	137.4	144.6	+1.2	
Japan Smlr Co's	136.3	143.5	+1.6	
European	88.0	92.7	+1.5	
Pacific Basin	80.9	85.2	+0.6	

GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE
Cheapside St, Cheshunt Herts
0992 31971

Portfolio Fd Acc	454.2		-2.5	
Do Inst	314.9

FAMILY MONEY

Edited by Vivien Goldsmith



Mortgage relief trap catches Mr and Mrs

The squeeze on claims for mortgage interest tax relief affects married couples as well as the unmarried and friends sharing a home, it has now emerged.

One case in which the Inland Revenue had challenged the claim for mortgage interest relief involved an unmarried couple, so it was not at first clear that the strict rules were being applied to married couples too.

In the case of unmarried sharers the solution to the Revenue's doubt about multiple applications for £30,000 worth of relief is a joint bank account. But married couples taxed separately under the wife's earnings election rules can lose some of their higher-rate relief by having a joint account.

Today BBC Radio's *Money Box* features two couples, one from Aberdeen and another from Cumbria, whom the mortgage interest relief rules could cost dear.

The Aberdeen couple, who had been married for years, suddenly realized their earnings had climbed to the level where it would save them money to be taxed separately.

This means the man loses his married man's allowance, but the two incomes are no longer aggregated, thus avoiding going into the higher-rate tax bands.

In this case, the man earned just over £24,000 and his wife £6,500 and they had a £30,000 mortgage. It pays married couples to opt for separate taxation when the combined incomes reach £26,870 with the lower income being at least £6,545 before other allowances are taken into account.

The mortgage interest qualified for tax relief at 45 per cent — the husband's marginal rate — while they were taxed as a routine married couple. But after they opted for the wife's earnings election, all their earnings and reliefs had to be separated.

The Revenue said it must be assumed that the couple share the mortgage so that a proportion of the mortgage qualifies for relief at 45 per cent and the other part qualifies for relief only at the 27 per cent basic rate.

The story with a happy ending

Initially the Revenue said the mortgage relief should be split equally between the couple. Half would be at the basic rate and half at 45 per cent. But this was later tempered to apportioning the mortgage relief in line with the couple's earnings — four-fifths for the husband and one-fifth for the wife.

But there was a happy ending for the couple after they pointed out that, although the mortgage was paid out of a joint bank account, all the wife's income went to a separate bank account and all the mortgage was in fact paid by the husband. So the Revenue conceded that the husband was paying all the mortgage interest and was entitled to claim it all against his tax.

The Revenue advice guiding couples on wife's earnings election does not point out the danger that any gains on saving income tax might be completely wiped out by losing higher-rate tax relief on part of the mortgage.

For the Aberdeen couple, the difference between getting all the £30,000 mortgage set against income at 45 per cent and having half of it set against basic rate tax is about £270 a year. For some couples where one of the partners is paying tax at 60 per cent, the loss of mortgage interest tax relief would be even greater and could completely wipe out the tax advantages of opting for separate tax treatment.

The ownership of a property does not affect the tax treatment of the mortgage interest relief. The Revenue is concerned about who actually pays the interest.

When there is a joint bank account, it will be assumed that the partners pay the interest equally unless they make out a case for the situation being different.

For married couples with wife's earnings election, a joint bank account can lead to problems. But in the case of sharers who are not married, a joint account can be the key to each retaining entitlement to tax relief on £30,000.

In one case a couple who were not married shared a house in Woolwich, south-east London. The woman stayed at home to look after the children. They had a £34,000 mortgage. The man claimed £30,000 worth of relief and the woman claimed £4,000. But this was disallowed by the Revenue — not because the woman did not have any income as that does not prevent the claim for tax relief, but because she was not actually paying any of the mortgage. The man paid the mortgage out of his own bank account and thus only he was entitled to claim any tax relief.

The Miras (Mortgage Interest Relief At Source) rules say: "Each borrower is entitled to relief according to the proportion of interest paid subject to the maximum limit."

But building societies that have to administer the Miras rules have never asked joint borrowers about where the money comes from and who is paying what proportion.

Joint account best for the unamrried

If unmarried sharers have a joint account to repay the mortgage the building society will assume that each is entitled to full tax relief up to the £30,000 limit.

The Abbey National Building Society, which handled the Woolowich couple's mortgage, is taking legal advice about what to tell its 30,000 multiple borrowers. In Britain about half a million people share a mortgage with someone other than a spouse.

The Lambeth Building Society is sending its 12,000 to 13,000 borrowers with their annual mortgage statement a reprint of a *Times* article warning of the dangers of losing multiple tax reliefs if the mortgage is seen to be paid by just one person.

Vivien Goldsmith



Complaints by the sackful: Karl Dallas prepares to form his bank consumer group

Customers bounce back

Karl Dallas was so incensed when his bank bounced a cheque for £22 on the day he paid more than £4,000 into his account that he has decided to start a bank customers' pressure group.

He has already had hundreds of letters from similarly disgruntled customers and now he intends to set up the Bank Users' Group on a proper footing.

"Not only did NatWest bounce my cheque, but they charged me £10 for the privilege," said Mr Dallas, a specialist in desktop publishing. "This is the sort of thing most of the big clearing banks do to their clients fairly regularly, especially those, like myself, whose accounts tend to go up and down yoyo-wise, depending on how clients pay their accounts. But I feel it is time we started doing something about it.

"The relationships between banks and their customers are deteriorating. I think part of the problem is that people are no longer being treated as individuals, just numbers in a computer. So if the computer says an account is overdrawn — no matter that it is just 2p — they will bounce cheques. They seem to have no leeway."

A spokesman for National Westminster said that although the bank would not discuss individual cases, "the decision to return a cheque due to lack of funds is not taken lightly by our managers and only after full consideration of an individual's case."

He added that when a complaint could not be settled with the branch manager, customers could go to someone more senior in the bank, and in the last resort to the Banking Ombudsman.

But Mr Dallas said many of the grievances he had heard about were niggling complaints about the way that customers were treated, rather than outrages that deserved to go to head office. But he had heard of one case in which a businessman had lost money because his bank honoured a cheque that should never have been cleared.

The Bank Users' Group intends to put out a regular newsletter showing comparisons of bank charges and interest rates. It would also take up issues on behalf of members.

Mr Dallas said: "I'm writing to all the banks to ask who deals with customer complaints. Often a third outside party is all that is needed to settle a dispute."

Mr Dallas will also take up broader issues affecting bank customers, such as legislation and general consumer rights.

He also hopes to run a Worst Bank of the Year award to publicize some of the horrors that members have found.

VG

Anyone interested in joining the Bank Users' Group should write first to Family Money (Bank), The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN

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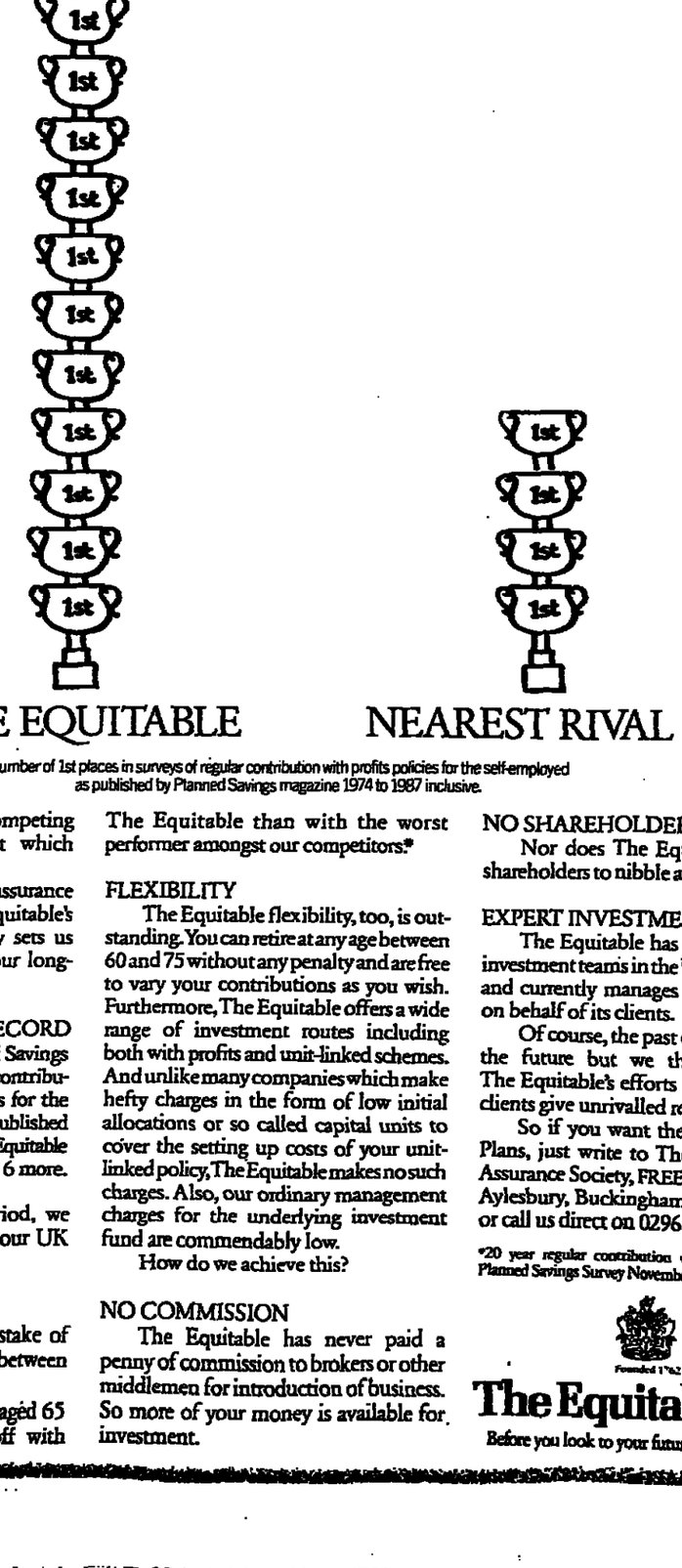
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FAMILY MONEY

The hotel to recommend

The Business Expansion Scheme season is in full sway, with investors deluged by companies and funds seeking their money. Some sponsors are beginning to build up a track record, producing handsome gains, as well as some losses.

However, Capital Ventures and Hodgson Martin – the latter managing the 3rd Abbey Syndicate – appear to have done very well for investors in some of their funds. Johnson Fry is likely to bring a couple of its prospectus issues to the stock market this year producing handsome returns.

Johnson Fry has several issues on offer – its County Resort Hotels is well worth considering. This has already raised more than £5 million from investors. It aims to build and manage hotels and closely follows a formula devised in three previous BES issues carrying the Resort Hotels banner.

The managers of all these BES companies are the same.

Excellent reputation in capital venture

It is worth noting that Charterhouse, the merchant bank and venture capital institution, has already invested £500,000 in County Resort. Charterhouse has previously backed this particular formula with £750,000 invested in another of the Resort issues.

The point here is that Charterhouse has an excellent venture capital reputation as a highly professional outfit. If Charterhouse is backing the Resort formula it may well be worth following. County Resort also has an obvious exit route stated in the prospectus – a quotation for the Resort Hotels network on the Unlisted Securities Market.

It would have been nice if Charterhouse and Johnson Fry had taken share options requiring an increase in value in the company's shares before they could be exercised. Instead they have taken the right to buy shares at the present £1 issue price.

Capital Ventures' hotel issue is worth considering, if only because of the sponsors' track record. Ashford International Hotel is a huge project involving the building of a hotel costing at least £16.7 million that will be conveniently close to our end of the Channel Tunnel.

Queens Moat Houses, a publicly quoted hotels group, will manage it but will not put any equity into the business initially. However, it will subscribe between £2.5 million and £4.5 million in convertible preference shares – effectively a loan convertible into equity on advantageous terms for Queens Moat.

You might have a long wait before you get your tax relief as the hotel will not start trading – a condition for giving the relief – for quite time.

The BES is not all solid hotel properties. There is even a shellfish BES company called Scallop Kings, which aims to hatch, rear, process and market scallops on an industrial scale off the coast of Scotland. You might find this a little too out of the ordinary for you. However, James Gulliver, Argyll's chairman, has already agreed to invest £100,000 and will provide advice on various aspects of its operations.

The promoters have also put in £100,000 – although their money also gives them special shares, which broadly entitle them to claim 40 per cent of any gain once the company's shares have doubled or increased by an average of 15 per cent a year.

The table, compiled by BES Investment Research, which has just produced a BES introductory guide, shows what funds and companies are on offer and the organizations managing the funds or sponsoring the companies.

Lawrence Lever

BES Investment Research, 60 St James's Street, London, SW1 1LE (01-409 7026)

BES UPDATE

CURRENT PROSPECTUS ISSUES

Company	Activity	Sponsor	Issue cost min/max	Sought min/max	Min inv	Closing date
Ashford International Hotel	Hotel	Capital Ventures	10%/8%	£4.8m/£8m	£3,000	Feb 19
Cavendish Retail	Shops	Smith & Williamson	6%/6%	£2m/£7.5m	£2,500	Feb 12
County Resort Hotels	Hotels	Johnson Fry	17.1%/8.5%	£1m/£4.5m	£1,000	Feb 15
Edenburgh Tankers	Shipping	Johnson Fry	na/7.6%	no min/£11m	£1,100	Feb 19
Seasons Garden Centres	Garden centres	Chancery Securities	24.2%/8.7%	£655,000/£4.4m	£500	Mar 15
Alliance Property & Construction	Property/ contractor	Guidehouse	na/7%	no min/£5m	£1,100	Remaining open
Black Barony	Hotel	Centreway	27%/18%	£500,000/ £1.075m	£501	Remaining open
Corinthian Construction & Development	Property/ contractor	Chancery Securities	22.6%/6.8%	£500,000/£5m	£500	Mar 15
Fownes Hotel	Hotel	Johnson Fry	13.5%/8.5%	£1.35m/£5m	£1,050	Mar 14
International Financial Strategies	Specialist consultancy	Chancery Securities	34%/16%	£360,000/£1m	£500	Mar 15
Residential Property Development	Property/ estate agent	London & Sussex Securities	46%/13%	£210,000/£1.38m	£720	Remaining open
Lachmead Group plc	Restaurants	Guidehouse	14%/8.13%	£800,000/£2.3m	£1,000	Feb 16
Albany Development & Construction	Property/ construction	Chancery Securities	27%/8.3%	£555,000/£5m	£500	Feb 17
Gladding Estates	Property/ estate agents	Chancery Securities	17.4%/6%	£750,000/£10m	£500	Feb 29
Fast Forward Inns	Inns and pubs	Johnson Fry	na/8.2%	nil/£4m	£1,100	Mar 4
Ebury Wine Bars	Wine bars	Quester Capital Management	21%/14%	£650,000/£1.2m	£1,200	Mar 11
Lockton Superstores	Retailing	Guinness Mahon	15%/7%	£1.25m/£5m	£1,000	Mar 12
Echo Hotel	Glasgow hotel	Johnson Fry	11%/9%	£3m/£5.1m	£500	Feb 29
KDM International	Forestry products	Hodgson Martin	28%/8.2%	£500,000/£5m	£2,000	Mar 11
Whitmore Holdings	Garages and property	Capital Ventures	14.8%/8.9%	£850,000/£2.6m	£2,000	Mar 14
Concept Restaurants	Pizza restaurant	Baltic Asset Management	na/11%	nil/£1.5m	£500	Mar 14
Scallop Kings	Scallop breeding	Minster Trust	27%/11.33%	£780,000/£1.8m	£2,000	Mar 15
First Choice Retirement	Sheltered housing	Johnson Fry	14.38%/8.2%	£1.25m/£5m	£1,000	Mar 14
Secure Retirement Homes	Sheltered housing	Cayzers	19%/6.74%	£937,500/£6.25m	£1,250	Mar 14

CURRENT FUNDS AND SCHEMES

Fund or scheme	Investment policy	Manager	Amount sought min/max	Subscription period	Min inv
3rd Abbey BES Syndicate	General	Hodgson Martin	Not stated	November 27, 1987 to Feb 29	£3,000
The Centreway Business Expansion Scheme	General	Centreway	Not stated/ c £1.5m	December to full subscription	£2,500
3rd Johnson Fry Business Expansion Scheme	General	Johnson Fry	Not stated	To March 1988	£1,000
2nd Johnson Fry Management and Leveraged Buy-out	Management buyouts	Johnson Fry	Not stated	To March 1988	£5,000
Mercia Venture Capital Scheme	Regional (Midlands, West, South-West)	Mercia Venture Capital	Not stated	To March 1988	£3,000
The Seventh Alpha Business Expansion Fund	General	Alpha	£500,000/ not stated	To Mar 25	£2,000

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FAMILY MONEY

How the new law is hitting the investor

Those investors who have dealt on the stock market since January 11 will have noticed the first sign of the spiralling costs of the Financial Services Act.

Any deal for more than £1,000 worth of shares has had an extra 80p "contract levy" slapped on it.

The Stock Exchange hopes to raise £3.7 million in this way, provided turnover in the market does not continue to evaporate — it is just part of the cost it will face in complying with the voluminous rule books that are soon to be a part of everyday City life.

Of the 80p, 50p goes to the Securities and Investments Board and 30p to the Take-over Panel. As take-over fever is not a manifestation of the gilts market, government securities face a levy of only 50p a time.

For years, anyone dealing in more than £5,000 worth of shares has been charged an extra 60p to help to pay for the running of the Take-over Panel, but this is the first time that a levy will *hit* smaller investors.



Fred Carr: "It's illogical"

'We made our views plain, but to no avail'

The bodies representing the big pension funds and insurance companies have expressed their concern not only about the manner in which the new levy was introduced — they felt it was rather surreptitious — but also about the principle of passing the costs of regulation directly on to investors.

Fred Carr, of Capel-Cure Myers, says: "Given that the *Gower Report* gave the Stock Exchange a pretty clean bill of health, it seems pretty illogical that the cost of complying with the Financial Services Act should be borne by those it is intended to protect."

Many private client stockbroking firms are unhappy about the new levy, which is obviously of greater significance to small investors than to the big institutions.

Gavin Oldham, of Barclayshare, says: "It is set at a threshold which is too low. It may not sound much, but when you set 80p against the minimum commission level, it is quite significant. We feel that the central markets should do anything they can to make share investment as easy as possible. We made our views very plainly beforehand, but to no avail."

However, Matthew Orr, who runs the Debenhams Share Shops, feels the levy is not too onerous. He says: "Broadly speaking, it is not a price sensitive issue. We are only talking about pennies."

Yet, like his competitors, he is not overjoyed about the principle of the thing.

"It is a great shame," he says. "One understands that the Stock Exchange has got costs to cover, but I would have thought that they have had a bit of a windfall over the past year, with the incredibly high volumes in the market.

"Stock Exchange firms pay a membership fee anyway, which should make a material contribution to costs."

The costs faced by individual broking firms in meeting the compliance requirements of the Financial Services Act could yet force them to increase their own charges. Capel-Cure Myers, for instance, has just increased its rates from 1.5 to 1.65 per cent to help it to cope with the costs of the SIB's regulations.

Simon Rose

Making life easier

Not all is gloom for the private investor. From this weekend, Albert E. Sharp's ShareLink service will be open from 10am to 4pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Those who find it difficult to contact a broker during the week will be able to open a new account or to place orders with a dealing limit to be carried out on the Monday.

And the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society has just launched a relatively inexpensive dealing-only service that will spread to all 174 of its branches by the beginning of April.

Any deal for less £2,000 will cost £18 while there is a maximum of £100 for anything over £10,000, the intervening rate being 1 per cent.

Because deals will be executed directly with the BZW market-makers, no VAT will charged on the commission.

The society says: "We are able to do it at this level and still make a profit on it. We are interested in spreading share ownership and in providing a good service for our customers which they cannot get elsewhere."

Here, however, as everywhere else, all deals for more than £1,000 will incur the Stock Exchange's 80p levy.

Share of confusion

The Government always intended that British Gas shareholders should be somewhat extraordinary and that they should break new ground in advancing the cause of wider share ownership.

Events connected with the distribution of the first dividend prove beyond doubt that this aim has been achieved.

Cheques to the company's three million or so shareholders were posted in October and by the beginning of this month 50,000 had not been cashed.

Questioned this week about whether large bundles might have gone astray somehow, the registrar's department of the National Westminster Bank, which is responsible for administering the British Gas share register, defended its handling of the first dividend distribution.

Apart from the sheer size of the mailing operation — three million cheques to be posted at once — there were other factors that had increased the chances of delays in the cashing of cheques, said a spokesman for the registrar's department.

Some shareholders were confused about what the dividend was and believed it was an amount they owed to their company. The department had received cheques from shareholders trying to pay for a dividend. Others had tried to pay for the vouchers distributed to shareholders as a perk for joining Sid's crusade.



There were between 2,000 and 3,000 who had further complicated the work of the registrar's deparment by misunderstanding the instructions on mandates for paying future dividend payments direct into bank accounts.

Forms had been sent out with the first dividend cheque. Customers were asked to give the sorting code number of their own bank. But many had misunderstood and copied from the documents sent to them the sorting code from British Gas's own account.

Yet another complication was the number of deaths among shareholders. The registrars were being notified of up to 1,500 a week, an unusually large number for any share registrar, said the spokesman. The issue had obviously attracted a large number of elderly people.

All in all, British Gas shareholders were unusual compared with those the department was accustomed to dealing with.

Maria Scott

PERSONAL PENSIONS

How to get a top performing plan with no hidden traps.

Some pension plans penalize you if you retire earlier than you originally intended; some, if you don't want to commit yourself to paying identical contributions every year.

With The Equitable's "with profits" plans you'll encounter no such traps.

Retire early, for instance, and we'll pay you the full value of your fund accumulated to date.

Whatever your special requirements are, you need not sacrifice superlative performance for flexibility.

Arranging your own pension? If you're a partner, self-employed or simply not in a company pension scheme, The Equitable's results might surprise you. The latest Planned Savings survey (November 1987) of regular contribution with profits policies shows that if you'd chosen our 20 year plan and had retired aged 65 on 1st September 1987 your fund would have been worth over 55% more than it would have been with the worst performer.

Over the last 11 years this magazine has compiled 22 tables surveying 10 and 20 year regular contribution with profits plans.

The Equitable has been top in twelve and second in four more. No other company has even approached this remarkable record.

Is your company's pension scheme? If your company pension will be less than two thirds of your final salary you may be able to top up your pension. And again our results are just as impressive. For instance, if you had retired aged 65 on 1st May 1987 with an Equitable 10 year "with profits" top-up plan your fund would have been worth 57% more than with the lowest performer.*

Over the years, in Planned Savings' surveys of 10 year regular contribution with profits pension plans for executives and other employees, The Equitable has come top more often than any other company.

Of course the past cannot guarantee the future, but for outstanding results without any of the hidden traps, cut out the coupon or speak to us direct on 0296 26226.

*Planned Savings Survey (July 1987) of regular contribution with profits policies.

Because of the form of current pension arrangements, the schemes are not generally available to Civil Servants or employees of local governments or nationalised industry.

To: The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, Walton Street, AYLESBURY, Bucks HP21 7BR. I'd welcome further details on The Equitable's retirement plans. ☐ I am self-employed; ☐ I am an employee not in a company pension scheme; ☐ I want to top up benefits from my company's pension scheme; ☐ I would also welcome details on retirement plans linked to up to twelve investment funds. (UK residents only)

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss)

Address

Postcode — Tel: (Office)

Date of Birth — Tel: (Home)

BPL/SB

Founded 1762

The Equitable Life

Before you look to your future, look to our past.

Before you decide on a personal loan, check what the others have to offer.

Name of bank or building society	Flat Rate	Typical A.P.R. †
TSB	8%	15.5%



For a limited period, TSB is offering a specially reduced 8% fixed interest rate on personal loans of £1,500 or over.

THE NEW TSB REPAYMENT TABLE†

Amount £	Total Interest.	Monthly Payment.	Total Amount Payable.
1500	359.76	51.66	1859.76
2000	480.04	68.89	2480.04
3000	719.88	103.33	3719.88
4000	960.08	137.78	4960.08
5000	1199.92	172.22	6199.92
7500	1799.88	258.33	9299.88

In our view, few bank managers could deny it's an opportunity you should jump at.

But don't take our word for it. Make a few phone calls and see if anyone comes in under our rate.

For a written quotation call in to any branch of TSB. Alternatively, write to the following address giving the purpose of the loan, the amount you wish to borrow and your preferred repayment period.

Customer Information Service, TSB England & Wales plc, P.O. Box 99, 100 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6AQ.

The bank that likes to say YES. TSB BANK

Minimum age 18. Offer available from Feb 1st to April 30th, 1988. Offer applies to TSB England & Wales plc only. TSB interest rate is fixed for term of loan. Repayment period: 12 to 60 months, depending on purpose. Loans subject to status. No security required. †Tables refer to repayment over 3 years excluding voluntary accident, sickness and unemployment insurance.

There are only 10 days left to get future tax free income for life!

If you are a higher rate income tax payer, or indeed if you believe that at some later stage you may be, the Inland Revenue has just made an announcement that could be of great importance to your future financial well being.

Namely, that after February 24 they are withdrawing tax privileges granted to certain types of life assurance contracts.

These contracts include 'maximum investment plans', either unit-linked or with-profits, whereby you invest premiums for 10 years, or a lump sum, in order to get an income, totally free of personal tax, later on.

Well, that income will no longer be tax free if you start your plan after February 24.

So for your own sake act right now to make certain you don't lose this important advantage. Call us – one of Britain's leading independent financial advisers – for detailed information without obligation. And do it right now – the clock is ticking...

Deadline February 24... but you must act now

Talk to Towry Law

for independent financial advice.

0800 300 710

For written details phone the above number free 8.00 am to 10.00 pm, this weekend.
Or, on Monday onwards, for immediate information phone Windsor 0753 868244 or Belfast 0232 237121 or Edinburgh 031-226 2244 or Leeds 0532 445911.

EXECUTIVE PENSIONS

As a director you are an expert on company performance. Examine ours closely before you choose a pension policy.

Someone retiring on 1 May 1987 would have been 57% better off with The Equitable than with the worst performer among our competitors, according to 'Planned Savings' most recent* survey of 10 year with profits pension plans for executives and directors. Of course, the past cannot guarantee the future, but since 'Planned Savings' began these surveys, The Equitable has been top of the tables more often than any other company. What's more, we also delivered the top benefits in their 1985, 1986 and 1987 surveys of 5-year plans.

Much of this pre-eminence derives from our outstanding investment performance. But we also give you a head start by having more of your money to invest in the first place, since we pay no commission to middlemen. Nor are there any shareholders to nibble away at the profits.

So unless you're one of the very few executives who will actually receive your maximum pension (2/3 of final salary), you'd be well advised to investigate a top-up pension.

If you're going to do that, it makes sense to come to the company with the top track record.

Please contact us direct on 0296 26226 or send in the coupon.

Planned Savings July 1987

To: The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, Walton Street, AYLESBURY, Bucks HP21 7BR. I'd welcome further details on ☐ Individual Pension Plans ☐ Unit-linked based alternatives.

(UK residents only)

Name Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address

Postcode Tel (Office)

Date of Birth Tel (Home)

BIB8A

Founded 1762

The Equitable Life

Before you look to your future, look to our past.

FAMILY MONEY

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes

Shares No	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Weekly Total
1	+9	-2	+4	+2	+2		
2	+6	-4	+6	+4	+5		
3	+5	-5	+5	+6	+4		
4	+5	-4	+3	+3	+5		
5	+7	-3	+5	+2	+2		
6	+4	-5	+3	+3	+4		
7	+5	-3	+5	+4	+6		
8	+7	-5	+4	+6	+3		
9	+5	-4	+5	+3	+6		
10	+8	-4	+3	+2	+3		
11	+6	-4	+3	+5	+3		
12	+9	-3	+3	+3	+2		
13	+5	-4	+2	+2	+4		
14	+5	-5	+5	+5	+5		
15	+5	-4	+6	+3	+4		
16	+6	-4	+2	+4	+4		
17	+8	-4	+4	+2	+2		
18	+8	-6	+3	+4	+3		
19	+7	-5	+3	+4	+3		
20	+7	-4	+5	+5	+4		
21	+8	-4	+5	+2	+3		
22	+6	-5	+2	+4	+4		
23	+5	-4	+5	+4	+5		
24	+7	-3	+3	+3	+3		
25	+5	-4	+2	+2	+3		
26	+6	-6	+4	+5	+4		
27	+8	-3	+4	+3	+2		
28	+5	-3	+5	+4	+5		
29	+7	-5	+5	+4	+5		
30	+4	-5	+2	+4	+3		
31	+5	-4	+6	+4	+5		
32	+5	-5	+4	+4	+4		
33	+5	-3	+2	+2	+5		
34	+9	-2	+4	+2	+2		
35	+5	-3	+7	+5	+5		
36	+5	-6	+3	+5	+4		
37	+5	-3	+2	+3	+3		
38	+5	-4	+5	+5	+5		
39	+7	-3	+3	+2	+2		
40	+4	-3	+2	+3	+4		
41	+7	-2	+5	+2	+2		
42	+7	-4	+7	+4	+5		
43	+6	-4	+3	+2	+5		
44	+5	-4	+3	+5	+5		

AMI's prescription for a healthy profit



Suitable case for investment? AMI's Clementine Churchill Hospital in Harrow, Middlesex

AMI Healthcare, the first major player in the British private health care sector to seek a full stock market listing, has timed its debut well, given the current debate over the future financing of the NHS.

The merchant bank SG Warburg is offering 23.2 million shares at 215p, valuing the group at £142.5 million. AMI Inc Group, the US parent, is reducing its shareholding to 65 per cent of the enlarged equity.

Net proceeds of £31.7 million will be raised for AMI Healthcare, which will be used to reduce borrowings to 25 per cent of the share capital.

Application lists close next Wednesday and dealings are expected to begin on Friday, February 26.

AMI Healthcare has a reasonable record at the operating profit level. Between 1983 and 1987, sales have grown from £38 million to £94 million while profits have risen from £3.9 million to £16.8 million.

There is no company with which AMI can be directly compared, although the underlying strength of the market in which it operates makes it unlikely that profits growth will slow in the short term.

Indeed, the rapid expansion of AMI's portfolio of hospitals in recent years, at an average cost of £120,000 per bed, has not yet been consolidated and will help to underpin future profits growth. City analysts expect 20 per cent profits growth in the year to the end of August.

Volatile market is the biggest threat

The overall stock market's volatile state remains the most significant threat to the success of what otherwise looks like an interesting and topical new issue.

AMI Healthcare, a subsidiary of the large US health care group, American Medical International, has been at the forefront of the marketing private health care services.

It is not alone in fixing the price of certain routine operations, such as hip replacements, in advance, so that customers are clear about the financial outlay at the outset. Indeed, the customer is not always the patient or insurance company. Certain NHS hospitals subcontract regular operations to the private sector. They often get reductions if patients take up beds at off-peak times, weekends and holiday times.

AMI also promotes its own credit card, Amicard, whereby the first six months' instalments are interest-free.

The group has been active in this country since 1970, when it bought a majority stake in the prestigious Harley Street Clinic in London. Since then it has built up a chain of 13 modern hospitals, containing 1,142 acute-care beds, accounting for 10 per cent of private sector beds. It also runs three psychiatric hospitals and has a growing occupational health and screening business.

The larger the hospital, the greater the economies of scale that can be achieved. An increasing number of private hospitals have state-of-the-art equipment and bear little resemblance to the traditional private sector cottage hospital.

Private hospitals are often able to vary their staff costs according to levels of occupancy. Average occupancy level of AMI's acute care hospitals is 65 per cent, but its pool of 1,800 full-time staff and 3,000 part-time staff enables every hospital or profit centre to adopt flexible working practices. Private hospitals are also increasing their outpatient business, providing an important contribution to overheads.

News that a private British health clinic is throwing in a fortnight's holiday at no extra cost if patients fly to Spain, albeit only for cosmetic surgery, is thus only one example of the growing commercialism of the private sector. The potential for the effective marketing of health care in this country is considerable.

Alexandra Jackson

BRIEFING

Double deal to win back investors

■ Jittery stock markets lead investors to hold back but two different outfits have come up with similar schemes to woo them back into unit trusts.

Basically, a sum is deposited in an interest-bearing bank or building society account and used to fund a regular savings scheme into unit trusts.

The scheme from Mercury Fund Managers, the Mercury Capital Investment Plan, places a minimum sum of £1,000 into a building society account where it earns 5 per cent interest. Then 1/24th of the sum is taken out every month and put into a Mercury unit trust. There is an initial fee of 2.5 per cent but the units are bought at a 3 per cent discount.

Chase de Vere's Phased Investment Programme places a minimum of £5,000 in an account with MLA bank paying 6.25 per cent. The money, together with a 2 per cent tax-free bonus, is transferred into an MLA unit trust savings plan over 13 months.

Moving fears

■ The new unit trust regulations to be imposed by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB) are so much tighter than those under which European Community funds are regulated that some groups may be tempted to move out of the UK, says Sir Gordon Borrie, director-general of the Office of Fair Trading.

Sir Gordon points out that from October 1989 groups will be able to promote their trusts from other EEC countries. The Unit Trust Association secretary Tony Smith said: "If SIB sticks out for these strict lines, then we will see unit trust managers looking around Europe. A number have already set up in Luxemburg – that's no secret."

For top earners

■ High earners are being courted enthusiastically by mortgage lenders keen to attract low-risk, high-return business. Kleinwort Benson has added another scheme to the rapidly increasing range of products available for the well-paid.

Kleinwort's Select Payment Mortgage is aimed at those earning more than £25,000 wanting to buy a home worth more than £100,000.

Monthly payments are reduced through deferment of a portion of the interest. The amount deferred is added to the capital outstanding. The first £30,000 is subject to normal interest to ensure full tax relief. Interest on the balance, between £30,000 and a maximum of 2.5 times the main borrower's income or 70 per cent of the property's value, can be deferred. The arrangement fee is £200 and the interest rate is 9.9 per cent.

China spin-off

■ Investors cannot celebrate Chinese New Year next Wednesday by putting cash directly into the vast economy of China – the only way to benefit from China's burgeoning growth



New Year: new investment

is to invest in China's Far Eastern neighbours.

Adaline Ko, one of the managers of Save & Prosper's Eastern Discovery Fund, launched this weekend, says: "I'm very bullish about China. It will be the most capitalist country in the world."

S&P already has two Japanese funds and a South-East Asian fund, but this new fund goes wider. The initial portfolio will concentrate on Japan and Hong Kong.

Get on the line

■ The Royal Bank of Scotland is giving customers the chance to chat with the computers that hold their accounts.

Through a new service called Phoneline, the bank is offering instant access to a range of banking services including balance inquiries, information on the last six transactions on the account and bill payment. The system uses an advanced method of speech recognition to identify telephone callers and interpret their spoken commands. Callers use an ordinary telephone to call their branch and link in to the Phoneline service. A business-like voice, sounding only slightly less than human, asks questions to identify the caller before asking for instructions. All calls are charged at local rates.

The bank is testing the system at four of its 850 branches during the next three months.

Open house

■ Holders of life assurance policies ought to be given the opportunity to find out more about the expenses and charges levied by the insurance companies operating their policies. This is the main recommendation of a report by accountants Peat Marwick McLintock on the vexed question of disclosure by insurers of the costs of marketing and managing life policies.

The Securities and Investments Board asked the firm to investigate after consumer groups protested about proposals to allow insurers to continue offering life insurance without disclosing details of expenses.

The accountants suggested a compromise. Insurers should not have to inform investors automatically, but details of expenses should be available on request.

The Association of British Insurers continues to insist that policyholders are likely to gain little from being able to see how much a company spends on management and marketing.

INTERNATIONAL BOND FUND

An important new opportunity to balance your portfolio.

Last October, when share prices around the world tumbled, bonds did not just hold their value, they actually grew. Unfortunately, many investors missed out on this growth, because their portfolios lacked bonds in the mix.

Now MIM Britannia offer their new International Bond Fund to those investors looking to balance their portfolios properly with bonds – lower risk, fixed interest securities. Can you afford not to protect your portfolio this way?

HURRY FIXED PRICE OFFER CLOSES 19th FEBRUARY

WHAT ARE BONDS?

Bonds are one of the ways in which Governments or large corporations raise money. They are one of the safest forms of investment and since they offer more security than shares, are extensively held by insurance companies and pension funds to provide a sensible balance to stocks and shares. In these volatile times shouldn't you be looking seriously at bonds?

7% INCOME PLUS CAPITAL GROWTH

The MIM Britannia International Bond Fund has a gross estimated starting yield of 7% p.a. and we believe that the outlook for international bonds is very favourable. Interest rates generally have been decreasing in recent months and, given the outlook for world economic growth, bonds should enjoy a major period of growth.

The potential for capital growth within the International Bond Fund comes from two sources:

FIRST: Bonds will increase in value if interest rates generally are falling.

SECOND: International bonds can produce gains when a foreign currency strengthens against sterling.

With skilled professional management international bonds can provide you with a really attractive combination of a high, secure income together with excellent capital growth potential.

INVEST NOW FOR IMMEDIATE BENEFIT

The MIM Britannia International Bond Fund aims to provide an above average income with long-term capital growth from an international portfolio of Government and Corporate bonds. The unit price will be held at 50p for the next two weeks until Friday 19th February to enable our fund manager to capitalise on the excellent opportunities that currently exist in world bond markets.

If your portfolio does not contain bonds, this is your opportunity. To invest in the new MIM Britannia International Bond Fund simply complete the application form and enclose a cheque. The minimum investment is £500. Or call us free on 0800 010 733. Our lines are open all week from 9.00am to 5.00pm and weekends 9.30am–1.00pm.

As a special service for Access card holders you can purchase units using your Access card. Either, fill in your account number in the form, or call our unit trust dealers free, quoting your account number and state that you wish to pay by Access.

Remember, the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

TALK TO US MIM BRITANNIA

GENERAL INFORMATION

Acknowledgement will be sent and certificates issued within 42 days. Unit prices and yields are published daily in leading national newspapers. Units can be sold back to the Managers at not less than the current bid price calculated to a formula approved by the Department of Trade and Industry. An initial management charge of 5.25% on the assets is included in the price of units and a service charge at an annual rate of 1% (+VAT) of the Trust's value is deducted from the Trust's gross income, although the Trust Deed allows a maximum annual charge of 3% (+VAT). Distribution dates are 15th April and 15th October in respect of the periods ending 15th February and 15th August respectively. The first distribution is scheduled for 15th October, 1988. Remuneration is payable to qualified intermediaries and rates are available on request.

Trustee: National Westminster Bank PLC. Auditors: Arthur Young. Managers: MIM Britannia Unit Trust Managers Limited. Registered Office: 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR. Telephone: 01-626 3434. Registered in England No: 898166. Member of the Unit Trust Association.

The offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

To: MIM BRITANNIA UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LIMITED, 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR.

I/We wish to invest £[ ] (min. £500) in the MIM Britannia International Bond Fund at the offer price ruling on date of receipt of my remittance. I am/we are over 18. I enclose a cheque payable to MIM Britannia Unit Trust Managers Limited ☐ I wish to pay by Access ☐ Please tick appropriate box.

My [ ] account number is: [ ]

I am an existing MIM Britannia unit holder ☐

SURNAME (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

FIRST NAME(S) (BLOCK CAPITALS)

ADDRESS

POST CODE

SIGNATURE DATE 11/2/88

CALL FREE 0800 010 733 9am–5pm weekdays | 9.30am–1pm weekends MIM BRITANNIA

VOTED No 1 LARGE INVESTMENT TRUST

What a pedigree!



When it comes to judging the pedigree of an investment, there are some simple questions to be asked. How well has it performed in the past and how does it stand up against the competition?

Over the long term shares have provided good returns especially when the investment is spread over a large number of holdings. This is how investment trusts work and as a group they have consistently outpaced the long-term growth achieved by building societies.*

For individual performance, few can rival The Throgmorton Trust, which has just been voted the No 1 large investment trust by Money Observer.**

Now, we've made it easy for you to join in the success. The Throgmorton Trust Savings Scheme enables you to invest in the Stock Market without the red tape and paperwork of a stockbroker or financial intermediary, and hence minimises fuss and costs.

Find out more by completing the coupon and returning it to: Throgmorton Investment Management Limited, FREEPOST, LONDON EC2B 2TN.

The Throgmorton Trust Savings Scheme

*Source AITC: The value of £100 invested over 7 years from 31.12.80 was £161.10 in a building society and £511.60 in the Throgmorton Trust.

**Source: "Money Observer", February 1988, Overall Performance 1987.

To: Throgmorton Investment Management Limited, FREEPOST, LONDON EC2B 2TN (To a UK authorised dealer in securities)

I would like to receive information on the savings scheme.

NAME (CAPITALS)

ADDRESS

صحتك من الأعلى

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

Verily, Verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. St. John 5 : 25

BIRTHS

AGATE - On February 11th, at Kingston Hospital to Claire and Ray, a daughter, Kimberley Jade.

BOWLES - On February 9th, to Catriona (née Philip) and Simon, a son, Alexander.

BROMLEY GARDINER - On February 4th, to Teresa (née Ormerod) and Michael, a daughter, Alice, a sister for Richard and Lucy.

BROMLEY-MARTIN - On February 4th, to Lorna (née Smith) and Robin, a son, Edward Courtney, a brother for Timothy.

BURGON - On February 6th, to Jenny (née Hayward) and David, a daughter Ruth.

CIFFARD - On February 11th, to Crescent and John, a son.

DANSELL - On February 1st, at Westminster Hospital, to Mary Anne (née Gadsden) and David, a daughter, Flora Murray, a sister for Lydia.

McCOY - On February 6th 1988, to Virginia (née Toone) and John, a son John Frederick.

NEWMAN - On February 6th, at Chester, to Anna (née Mascock) and Charles, a son, Thomas Charles, a brother for Emma.

RANDAWA - On February 2nd, at Whittington Hospital, Highgate, to Sheryl and Yash, a lovely daughter, Lucy Rebecca Paloma.

ROWLANDSON - On February 7th, to Piers and Kim, (née Bicknell) a daughter, Emily Claire, a sister for Titus and Thomas.

SUTHERLAND - On February 8th 1988, to Susan (née Parkin) and Andrew a son, Oliver Thomas Andrew.

WALKER - On February 10th, to Vanessa (née Jones) and Guy, a daughter, Lucinda, a sister for Benjamin.

WILLIAMS - On February 1st, at Cuckfield Hospital to Shirley (née Robson) and Norman, a son, Henry George Gascoyne.

DEATHS

BAXTER - On February 11th, in hospital Bryan dearly loved husband of Vera and father of Baddy. Donations if desired in lieu of flowers Salisbury Health Authority c/o Dr. West, Old Manor Hospital.

CATES - On February 11th, at Mount Alvernia, Jacqueline, widow of Conyers S Cates, mother of Barbara and Armel and grandmother of Tom, Sam and Ilaria. Funeral Service at St John's Crematorium, Woking on Tuesday February 16th at 3.30 pm.

DEVEY - On February 6th, James Dunbar, F.I.F.S.T., aged 66, suddenly at Mundaring, Western Australia, husband of the late Mary and father of Aileen, Fiona and Philip. Cremation in Western Australia. Interment in Cardross, Scotland. Enquiries. Crawley 883655, Sevenoaks 464141 (Evenings)

FIELD-JOHNSON - On February 10th 1988, after a short illness, Henry Anthony (Tony) Field-Johnson MC, MBE of Brockenhurst, Hants. Husband, provider and protector of Fi. Father of Nicholas and Monica. Well loved and will be sorely missed. Funeral at Bournemouth Crematorium on Wednesday, February 17th at 2.30 pm. flowers may be sent to A Cleveland, Funeral Director, Brockenhurst.

FLINN - On February 10th, at Homeforth House, Newcastle upon Tyne, Peter David, aged 70 years. Funeral Service at Newcastle Crematorium on Tuesday 16th February at 2.00 p.m.

GEMMELL - On February 10th, Lt. Col. Arthur Stewart Gemmell of Ingarsby Old Hall, Leicestershire. Funeral Tuesday February 16th. 11.30am at Hungarton Church.

GLANVILLE BROWN - On February 10th, peacefully after a long illness, Peggy (née Dilks) aged 75 years, beloved wife of Bill and loving stepmother of Richard. Funeral at Heaton Crematorium on Wednesday February 17th at 3.00 pm. Any donations to The Alzheimer Disease Society.

HAMSON - On February 10th, peacefully at Leckhampton Court, Cheltenham, Eugene aged 83 years. Dear father of Tony and Judith. Requiem mass on Tuesday February 16th at St. Mikaela, Pill, Newport, Gwent at 11.am., followed by interment at St. Woolos Cemetary, Newport. No flowers. Donations in his memory to the Housing Association Charitable Trust, 175 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8UP. Rest in peace.

HICKMAN - On February 9th, suddenly at home, Roughton House, Bridgnorth, John Reginald, beloved husband of Violet, and dear father of John and Jeremy and the late Primrose Olink. Enquiries and flowers to Perry and Phillips, Underhill Street, Bridgnorth 765255. Funeral at St Chads Catholic Church, Sedgley Nr. Wolverhampton On friday February 19th at 11.30am.

HIGGS - On February 12th 1988, at King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst Gwendolen Joan (née Sherring) aged 80 years, widow of the late Edward Higgs and much loved mother of Anne and Elizabeth (twins). Funeral at St. Marys Easton near Midhurst on Monday February 15th at 2.30p.m. Flowers may be sent to L.F. Lintott & Son, North Street, Midhurst.

HOUGHIN - On February 10th 1988, peacefully at Salisbury Infirmary, Derrick, Dearly loved husband of Stella, and father of Elizabeth and John. Service at Martin Parish Church, Martin, Near Fordingbridge on Friday 19th February at 2.45 pm, followed by family cremation service. No flowers, but donations if desired to Salisbury hospitals Trust, C/O John Shering, 51 Church St., Fordingbridge, Hants. Tel. 0425 53019.

KEENLYSIDE - On February 11th, 1988, suddenly but peacefully, Ann, beloved wife of Dick and adored mother and step-mother. Cremation private. Thanksgiving Service at St Michael's Church, Blackford at 2.30 pm on Thursday February 18th. No flowers but donations for Blackford Church would be appreciated. Enquiries to H F Miles, Funeral Director, South Cadbury, Yeovil. Tel: (0963) 40367.

MARSTON - On February 5th 1988, at her home Edith (Betty) Floyd Marston of Haywards Heath Sussex. Cremation at The Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Worth, Sussex, on Monday February 15th at 3.45 pm. No flowers please but donations to The Care Association, c/o R A Brooks & Son, 35 Wivelsfield Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex. Tel 0444 454391.

MILES - On February 11th 1988, at his home Sir Ashley Miles C.B.E., F.R.S., funeral at Golders Green Crematorium, Hoop Lane, NW11, on Tuesday February 16th at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only, details of a Memorial Service will be announced later.

PERROTT - On February 11th 1988, John Herbert Clement Trevor, suddenly in hospital aged 76. Dearly loved father of Veronica and grandfather of Philip.

STATHATOS - On Febuary 8th, tragically in Cambridge Alexandra, aged 23, younger daughter of Mrs Patricia Mandifen MBE. Much loved by her family and friends. Funeral service on Thursday Febuary 18th at 4.00 pm in Girton College Chapel. No flowers please but donations may be sent to the Greek Animal Welfare Fund Ltd, 11 Lower Barn Road, Purley, Surrey, CR2 1HY for the new animal welfare centre in Athens.

WEINBERG - On February 8th 1988, peacefully in hospital in Brighton, Sidney Weinberg B.Sc., C.Eng., F.I. Mech. E., A.C.I.Arb. Sadly missed and deeply mourned by his wife Renée, daughter Hilary, son-in-law Neil and beloved grandchildren Russell and Beverley.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

EARL DE LA WARR - The private funeral will take place on Thursday February 18th 1988 at 12 noon at St Michael and All Angels Church, Withyham. No flowers. Donations to Army Benevolent Fund, 41 Queensgate, London SW7.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENTLEY
If your surname is BENTLEY
and you live in the London area, call
837 7022/7048
for an invitation to your special party

CAS-IO: See you later calculator A.v xxx.

CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S FUND of GB help Third world poorest children. Sponsor a child. Donations and legacies needed for development projects. Tel: 01 831 7146. CCFGB, Freepost, London, WC1R 4BR

DIARY DATE James Rogers will be showing a selection of quality Rioja wines at The Barnes Wine Shop next Saturday from 10am-6pm. Tel: 01 878 9643

DURRANTS HOTEL, London W1, wish to notify the public of the auction of an etching titled 'Tide & Tide' by Edvard Munch on July 4th 1988 at Phillips.

EMMIGRATING? I am researching emmigration for a Channel 4 programme. I would be grateful for your assistance. Confidentiality guaranteed. Contact: Ian Brown, Channel 4, 15 Hill Gate St, London. W8. 01-243 1677.

EX/ PROSPECTIVE Overlander. Can you help research student compile info? Contact: Glasgow Univ, 57 South Park Ave, Glasgow. 041 339 8855 ext 4067.

RABBI LIONEL BLUE
invites you to listen on St Valentine's Day, February 14th, 8.50am - BBC Radio 4 - and to join him in supporting the Disabled Living Foundation. DLF needs money to grow. Please send your donation to: Rabbi Lionel Blue,
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

HANSEL weds Gretel. Coliseum Saturday 30th January. Blue glasses in dress circle await sign from good fairy. Reply to BOX J20 .

HAVE A REAL Valentines - see Shopperound feature in todays paper.

QUIZ Contestants needed. Lively couples with good general knowledge & a sense of fun could win fabulous prizes on Tarby's Frame Game. For details of this exciting quiz send a postcard to: Tarby's Frame Game, P.O Box 333 Yorkshire Television, Leeds LS3 1JS.

RHEUMATISM Sufferers. We are conducting a nationwide market research in order to establish the approximate number of sufferers of Rheumatism. If you are one of them write to Magnesia (U.K.) Distributors - 32 James St. London W1M 5HS.

WINE PRICES HELD on our 1987 Wine list. for all orders received before 11th March 1988. Send for a copy NOW. New customers will receive a £10 GIFT VOUCHER redeemable against orders over £45. Keep inflation & the Chancellor at bay! Averys Of Bristol, Dept. TP, 7 Park St, Bristol BS1 5NG (0272) 214 141.

ZIMBABWE Due to cancellation 4 places available on private 2 week luxury safari tour. Leave London 23 April. Tel. After 6pm. 010 4121 9636 778.

BIRTHDAYS

Lisa:
Happy 21st Birthday
with all my love,
Daddy.

CONGRATULATIONS D.B - On your 40th. from F.L.V.V.D.

FARMILOE - Derrick. Love and congratulations from all the family for your 60th Birthday.

IAIN MacDOUGALL - Born 13/2/18. Love & Congratulations from Rachel and all the family.

ROMAR 18 tomorrow. Happy Birthday.

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CAPITAL CVs for high quality curricula vitae. 01-607 7906.

FRIENDSHIP, Love or Marriage. All ages, areas. Dateline, Dept (QT2) 23, Abingdon Road, London W8. Tel: 01-938 1011.

NEW MOTHERS. Difficulty with feeding, sleeping or general management of your baby? Mother Nature offers consultation in your home in the London area. Call Rita Bailey SRN, RNMH. 01 747 0199.

SERVICES

NO Valentine Today? Consult The Marriage Bureau - Heather Jenner. 124 New Bond St W1. 01-629 9654.

WHEN in London rent a video/TV by day, week, month. TOPS TV Hewlett Hse, Havelock Terr. SW8. 01 720 4469

WANTED

£ £ Wanted. All large furniture, desks, linen presses, bookcases, tables, chairs, china, pictures, silver, etc. 01 946 7683 (days).

ALL CROCODILE articles, old leather luggage, trunks etc. wanted. Tel: 01-229 9618(T)

BOOKS (most subjects) purchased. Call, write or tel: 97 Old Brompton Rd, South Ken, London, SW7. 01 584 3567.

FLAT REQUIRED - As London base for RAF officer, well contained preferred. Contact 0734 790381.

GLYNDEBOURNE tickets required. Any production. May/June but must be 2 tickets for the same performance. Will pay £150 per seat. Tel 01 672 7816.

MALE Undergrad desperately needs financial aid to continue education. All enquiries answered. Room 4, 47a Lower Cathedral Road, Cardiff.

ROYAL ASCOT Box wanted urgently. Tel 01 628 4891 (daytime).

WANTED: Standard 8-track tape player to rent or borrow. Tel: (0767) 316819.

FOR SALE

ACCESS TICKETS. Best service in town. Phantom, Cats, Les Mis, all theatre, sport & Michael Jackson. 01 821 6616. 828 0495. All CC accepted.

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CONTENTS of Scottish Castle for sale. Furniture, pictures, chandeliers. £20,000. Private sale - no dealers. Reply to BOX J15 .

EXQUISITE - Burmese tapestry. High quality, authentic. Contact. DI 659 7871 after 7pm.

FINEST quality wool carpets. At trade prices and under, also available 100's extra. Large room size remnants under half normal price. Chancery Carpets 01 405 0455.

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RUGBY INTERNATIONAL Tickets wanted. We buy and sell for all games. Obtainables Ltd: 01-839-1988.

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USA Summer jobs. Ranches, resorts etc. Directory listing 50,000 jobs in W. H. Smith etc, or £6.95 from Vac-Work, 9 Park End St, Oxford.

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

ARE there any entertaining men left for friendship with middle aged female? Reply to BOX A84

ATTRACTIVE, petite and sophisticated blonde, 32, who enjoys life-riding, skiing, theatre, ballet and foreign travel. Currently lacking that special romance, would love to meet an attractive, successful, honest and caring gentleman, who is courageous enough to chance this unusual way of meeting someone. Dare you reply? Photo appreciated. Cotswolds/London area. Reply to BOX J39.

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

COUNTY INTRODUCTIONS has personable gentlemen who are seeking marriage and firmly to suitable ladies residing Gloucestershire. Tel: 0452 26561O.

DO You play golf? The mixed foursomes competitions are starting soon. I am looking for a partner, male, reasonably good golfer, 46-55, living in the home counties who likes to play on different courses and enjoys socialising afterwards. Reply to BOX J35.

ENGLISH GENTLEMAN - 49, widower, seeks a smart Englishwoman to help develop his established horticultural business which includes gardens and nurseries in a delightful part of South-West Europe. This is a situation which could lead to a lasting relationship. She must be without domestic ties. Some background in horticulture or a science profession could be useful, but above all she will have a love for the countryside, flowers and gardens, and be able to enjoy a subtropical climate. Enquiries to be treated in strictest confidence, giving full personal details and recent photograph, are to be sent to BOX J55.

GENTLEPEOPLE take great care to introduce you to the sort of people you want to meet. Our personal introductions, social events and private functions are highly successful in making lasting relationships and new friendships. Change your life in 1988 by contacting us. Gentlepeople Ltd, Garden Studios, 11-15 Betterton St, Covent Garden, London WC2H 9BP or telephone 01-379 0344 or 768 9287.

HELENA INTERNATIONAL Are you seeking a lasting relationship? Ours is a very personal and completely confidential service arranging carefully assessed introductions between individuals of the highest calibre. For full details tel 01-409 2913. Helena International, VIP introductions, 17 Hill St, Mayfair, London, W1X 7FB.

MARRIAGE a Advice Bureau, Katharine Allen (ex. Foreign Office) Personal advice & introductions for those wishing to marry. Est. 1960. SAE, 3 Cork Street, London W1X 1HA. 01-494 3060

OLD FRIENDS The introduction agency for men & women aged 40 and above. Details from: Anne Brent, 18a Hambury New Park, N6 2DB. Tel: 01-226-8432.

SELECT FRIENDS The introduction agency for professional people. 58 Maddox Street, London W1. Tel 01 493 9537.

SLENDY Lunch Anyone interested in forming a club? Reply to BOX D64

SUPERMARKET Professional man, 52, seeks younger supermarket elegant lady". Reply to BOX J26.

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LTD reserves the right to refuse any advertisement put forward for publication in these columns. The use of a Box number is recommended when advertising. Before replying to any advertisement in these columns, please take all normal precautionary measures. As Times Newspapers Ltd. cannot be held responsible for any action or loss resulting from an advertisement carried in these columns.

VERY ATTRACTIVE cultured and intelligent lady (34) (Blond Modern) with a warm, charming, slightly reserved personality yet enjoying a very demanding professional career - seeks an equally warm, confident, established, well-spoken gentleman who is sincere, understanding and honest being able to respect her need to succeed in her career and able to form a close, true and equal relationship/marriage. Written applications only, photo appreciated, please quote ref A006. Helena International, VIP Introductions, 17 Hill Street, Mayfair W1X 7FB.

FLATSHARE

CHELSEA. Discreet prof person 24 upwards required to share very exclusive town house. £200 pw neg. Tel: 01 736 4129.

CLAPHAM Own double room in large luxury house, with garden. Near tube. All amenities. £60 pw excl. 01 673 6369.

CLAPHAM Couple wanted to share luxury house. Large double room. Near tube. £390 pcm excl. 01 673 6369.

CLAPHAM SOUTH - Professional female, large room to let in comfortable house, tube 3 minutes. £280 pm incl. Phone 01 675 1699.

COUPLE - to share rm in lge flat in Camberwell. New dec. CH etc. £280 pcm excl. Tel 01 703 6279 eves.

OWN Room in sociable house close to Central line Shepherds Bush. £250 pcm inc. Tel: 01 493 4268 12-1pm.

STH. KEN. 2 mins tube. For fem grad. Lux own room pied a terre, new bath & kit. all machines. Gdns. Tennis. £315pcm all incl. 01 589 4730.

SW18 Female to share nice house with owner, garden, close tube (Southfields). £55 pw. Tel: 01 870 1314.

W8 Girl wanted for flat, opposite Kensington Gardens. Tel 01 937 7988 (after 6).

WOODFORD - Prof 25 plus to share house. n/s pref, City 20 mins by tube. £50 pw incl. Tel 01 504 8676 (eves).

DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS

BUTLER & COOK Chauffeur and housekeeper seeks available, permanent and temporary, all references checked. Apply Miss J. Kennedy, Belgravia Bureau, 35 Brompton Road, SW3. Employment Agency 5891941.

MIDDLE aged lady offers free accomodation in return for a little help by MS sufferer. Southbourne, Tunbridge Wells. Tel. 0892 24291.

RENTALS

BLOOMSBURY Charming luxury mews, 3 beds, 2 bath, roof garden. Tel 01 589 6966.

CHELSEA Knightsbridge, Belgravia, Pimlico, Westminster. Luxury houses & flats available for long or short lets. Please ring for current list, Cooper, 69 Buckingham Palace Rd, SW1. 01-828 8251.

CHELSEA - 1 bed luxury flat in sought after area. All facilities, 2 mins tube. £180 pw. Tel: 01 870 0282 after 7.00 pm.

CHELSEA Light spacious balcony flat. Double bedroom, reception, lift, porters. Newly refurbished. 01 622 5825

CHELSEA SW10 Lovely garden flat on 2 floors. 2 dbl beds, 2 baths, fully equipped kit. £200 pw. 352 1690 or 352 7967.

RENTALS

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LITTLE VENICE W9 - Large very attractive 2 bed f/f flat. £200 pw. Tel 01 289 2951 (h).

NR BAKER ST- W1. Delightful 2 roomed flat o/looking garden square £200 pw. Tel 01 935 3393.

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PUTNEY Superb newly dec spacious 2 bed unf hse, recep/diner, study, fl fit, gdn, gge, excel views. £160 pw 01 381 4998.

SOUTH KEN. - Lux. 2nd floor flat, recep, bedrm, K+B, f. furn, wash m/c, CH, mins tube. Co let. £240 pw, incl cleaning serv. Tel. 01 589 3147 mon-fri.

ST JOHNS WOOD Near tube. Superb flat. CH. Porter. £180 pw. Tel: 01 935 0196 or 209 0996

SUPERIOR FLATS & HOUSES avail. & req. for diplomats, executives. Long & short lets in all areas. Lipsfriend & Co. 48, Albemarle St W1. 01-499 5334.

LEGAL NOTICES

LOWY nee KARDOS, ELIZABETH LOWY otherwise ERZSABET LOWY nee KARDOS, widow. Late of 1A Manor Road, Woodford Bridge, Essex. Died at: Woodford Bridge, Essex on 18 April 1982. Estate about £25,000.
The ips of the above named are requested to apply to the Official Solicitor to the Supreme Court, Penseret House, 287 High Holborn, London WC1V 7HP, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to collect the estate.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
NO. 007450 of 1987
IN THE MATTER OF
RATNERS GROUP plc
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 28th January 1988 confirming the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company from £222,458,692 to £2,458,692 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 29th January 1988.
Dated this 9th day of February 1988
Theodore Goddard
16 St. Martin's-le-Grand
London
EC1A 4EJ
Solicitors for the above-named Company

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives to the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

SWEETMAN Mrs. Edna Hilda of Nagsbury Hospital, London Colney, Nr. St. Albans, Herts, formerly of Mill Hill, London, died on 17th May, 1987. Particulars to Chambers, Rutland & Crauford Solicitors of 361 Regents Park Road, Finchley, London N3 1DJ, before 18th April 1988.

COCKING MAY, late of Farleigh View, Old Peoples Home, 48 Selsdon Park Road, Selsdon, Surrey CR2 8JE Spinster died 29th January 1988, Notice to Messrs. William Charles Crocker, New Mercury House, 81/82 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4BT before 22nd April 1988.

EDWARDS Phyllis Violet of 5 Northborne Road, London SW4 died on 3rd April 1986. Particulars to Rooks Rider, Solicitors of 8 & 9 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, WC2A 3QJ, before 14th April 1988.

BAKER, Will FRANK and EMILY BAKER or their issue or anyone knowing their whereabouts, please contact Messrs. Malcolm Wilson & Cobby, Solicitors, 1 Highworth, Worthing, West Sussex. BN11 1ST (Ref. JMR).

Services tomorrow

Quinquagesima

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.30 M. Responses (Rheinberger). Ireland in F. Jesu, joy of man's desiring (Bach); S Euch. & Communion. Schubert in G and C. The Archbishop: 3.15 E. Responses (Shepherd). Chichester Service (Walton). Thou has made me (Berkeley): 6.30 ES. Rev P R Heartfield.
YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC: 10.15 S Euch. Missa Brevis (Haydn). Mag and Nunc (Stanford) in B flat. Responses (Smith); 4 E. Bairstow in D. Greater love hath no man (Ireland). Canon John Tay.
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 30 M. Stanford in B flat. Rt Rev J Hughes: 11.30 HC. Messe Solonnelle (Langlais). 1.05 Organ recital: 5.15 Walmisley in B flat. Cantique de Jean Racine (Faure). Ven G Cassidy.
WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8, 11.40 HC: 10.30 M. Canon D Gray: 3.15 K H Bertiz: 5.55 Organ recital: 6.30 ES. Rev M Hayes.
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 HC: 11 S Euch. Orgelsmesse (Mozart). Where thou reignest (Schubert). The heavenly word proceeding forth (Palestrina). Rev S Knowers: E Walmisley in D minor. Cantique de Jean Racine (Faure). Canon P Pepwarden.
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 10.30, Mass in G (Schubert). O altitudo divitiarum (Guerrero). Grand Choer Dialogue (Gibbons) 12. 5.30 SM. Rev W J Maunder: Ave verum corpus (Victoria). Venite comedite (Byrd). Fantaisie in E flat (Saint-Saens).

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC: 11.15 MP. Ah! See the fair Chivalry (Andrews). Canon P A Welsby.
QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11.15 M. Stanford in B flat. Blessed be the God and Father (Wesley). 1R Rev P Walker: 6.30 HC.
ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 M & HC. Jesu, Joy and Treasure (Bach). I saw a new heaven (Bairstow). The Chaplain.
GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M: 12 HC. Coldstream Guards. The Chaplain.
LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL: 11.30 MP. The Lord is my shepherd (Schubert). Rev R Boyle.
TOWER OF LONDON, EC3: 9.15 HC: 11 M. Short Service (Weelkes). Like as the hart (Howells). The Chaplain.
TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street, EC4: 8.30 (Reading). 11.15 MP. Response (Reading). Willman in G. Jubilate (Walton). Many waters cannot quench love (Ireland). The Master.
ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) WC2: 9 HC: 11 Euch. Darke in F. Out of the deep (Morley). Rev M J Stokes.
CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC: 11 M, Ireland in F. Set me as a seal (Walton). The Chaplain: 3.30 E. O Lord increase our faith (Loosemore). Short Service (Gibbons). Though I speak (Bairstow).

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: 11 S Euch. Rev E Vince.
ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM: 11 HM. Missa Sancti Joannes de Deo (Haydn). Though I speak with the tongues of men (Bairstow). Rev C A Reddington: 6 E & B. Dyson in D. O Lord increase my faith (Loosemore). The Vicar.
ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9.30 HC: 11 Rev J Stott: 6.30 Clubhouse Focus Service. Rev S Parke.
CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, Old Church Street, SW3: 8, 12 HC: 10 Children's Service: 11 M. Preb C E L Thomson: 6 E. Preb C E L Thomson.
CHRIST CHURCH, CHELSEA, SW3: 8 HC: 11 Parish C. N Richardson.
CROSS KEYS CHAPEL, South Audley Street: 8.15 HC: 11 S Euch. Communion Service in F (Darke). Salvator Mundi (plow). View me Lord (Lloyd). Rev A W Marks.
HOLY TRINITY, Brompton Road, SW7: 8.30 HC (1662): 10.30 HC (ASB). Rev J A K Millar: 6.30 ES. Rev N G P Cumbaa.
HOLY TRINITY, Sloane Street, SW1: 8.30, 12.10 HC: 10.30 S Euch. Rev K L Yates.
ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 8.30 HC: 11 M & Euch. Purcell in C. Canon J Oakes: 6.30 E. Responses (Jackson). Harewood in A. (Tallis) O Lord increase my strength (Loosemore). Thou shalt speak with tongues of men (Bairstow).
ST CUTHBERT'S, Philbeach Gardens SW5: 10 HC: 11 S Euch, Stanford in G. Love of the Father (Gibbons). Rev J Vine: 6 E & B.
ST GEORGE'S, Bloomsbury, WC1: 10 Parish Communion: 6.30 E.
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC: 11 S Euch, Whitlock in G. We shall feel thy loving kindness (Mickle). Canon J McCarthy.
ST GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS, St Giles High St, WC2: 8, 12 HC: 11 MP. Rev J Taylor: 6.30 EP. Rev D C Taylor.
ST JAMES'S, Muswell Hill, N10: 8 HC: 11 MP. Rev M Parker: 6.30 HC. Rev M Parker.
ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly, W1: 8.30 HC: 11 S Euch: 6 EP.
ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC: 9 Euch. I will love the (Tallis). Missa Aedis Christi (Howells). Rev J Haselock: 6 E. Dyson in F. Like as the hart (Howells). Rev P Bustin.
ST JOHN'S, Hyde Park Crescent, W2: 8 HC: 10 Parish Euch & Sunday School. Rev T Birchard: 6.30 Evening Worship. Rev T Hardy.
ST JOHN'S WOOD CHURCH, NW8: 8 HC: 9.30 Parish C: 11 S Euch, Coronation Mass (Mozart). Rev A Walker: 6.30 E. The Vicar.
ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC: 10.30 HC & MP. Darke in E. Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (Bairstow). Rev D R Watson: 6.30 E. And I saw a new heaven (Bainton). Rev M Butcher.
ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC: 10 Family C: 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina). Call to Remembrance (Farrant). Rev J Humble.
ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 9.15, 12.15 HC: 11 M. Rev C Richardson.
ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC: 9.45 Euch, Rev P Chester: 11.30 MP Rev A Roberts: 2.45 Chinese Service (CP). Rev J Bennett: 4.30 E: 6.30 L. Miss M MacMillan.
ST MARY ABBOTS, Kensington, W8: 8, 12.30 HC: 9.30 S Euch. Rev H J Stringer: 11.15 M. The Vicar: 6.30 E. Rev A R Addy.
ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45, 7 LM: 11 HM. Missa Brevis (Philips). Richard de Castre's prayer (Terry). Here O my Lord (Whitlock). Fr N Kavanagh: 6.15 E & B.
ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, NW1: 8, 11 HC. Missa Solemnis (Mozart). Ave Verum (Mozart). Rev A Henderson: 6.30 Rev C H Cooke.
ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square, SW1: 8.15 HC: 11 Family Service. Rev J Crossley: 7.30 ES. Rev D C L Prior.
ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 11 M: 12.15 HC. Blessed are the pure in heart (Davies). Responses (Tomkins). Stainer in A. Awake us Lord and hasten (Bach).
ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC: 11 S Euch. Mass for three voices (Byrd). The Pharisee and the Publican (Schutz). The secret sins (Gibbons). Canon K de Berry.
ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1; services held at St Peter's Primary School: 8.15 HC: 10 Family Mass: 11 SM. Thora Dess (Viadana). Vos Dicendis (Naylor). Rev A R Chilwick.
ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner Street, SW3: 8 HC: 11 MP. They that go down to the sea in ships (Gounod). 6.30 Quest Service. Patrem Immensae majestatis (Mendelssohn). Preb J Pearce.
THE ANNUNCIATION, Bryanston Street, W1: 11 SM. Missa tertia (Hassler). Gustate et videte (Isaac): 6 LM & B.
ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11, 6.30 Rev W Johnston.
CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15 Confirmation and Admission of Communicants. 6.30 Rev K G Hughes.
THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 8, 10, 12, 4, 6, LM: 11 SM. Missa sine nomine (Heredia). Lauda Sion (Palestrina). Magnificat primi toni (Lassus).
CHURCH OF OUR LADY, Lisson Grove, St John's Wood: Mass in G (Williams). O

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ENTERTAINMENTS

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Saturday 13 Feb 3.00 pm	PREMIERE OF RSPB WILDLIFE FILMS A Link: Owl's Story follows the life of a female tawny owl. Mud Matters. A film in support of the Society's conservation campaign. Sealand Day. The story of a colony of gulls raising & fledgling in the confines of Bristol. £3.95 £3.20 £2.95 £2.60 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	
Saturday 13 Feb 7.30 pm	THE HOPPNUNG FESTIVAL OF MUSIC Philharmonia Orchestra and more surprise celebrities. Grand closing concert with a further helping of musical merriment and Sugar Plums, Disconcerto, Haydn's 'Surprise' Symphony & Mendelssohnpourri on a Beethoven Theme. £14 £11.50, £10, £9, £7.50, £6.50, £5, £2.50, £2 Philharmonia Ltd	
Sunday 14 Feb 3.15 pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Yuri Temirkanov (cond) Dmitri Alexeev (piano) Berlioz Overture Le Carnaval Romain. Grieg Piano Concerto. Glinka: Dances from Ruslan and Ludmilla. Stravinsky Suite. The Firebird (1945) £14 £12.50 £9 £7, £5 £4, £3 RPO Ltd	
Sunday 14 Feb 7.30 pm	VALENTINE'S DAY CONCERT Philharmonia Orchestra Anthony Ingles (conductor) Howard Shelley (piano) Tchaikovsky Fantasy Overture Romeo and Juliet. Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No. 2. Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5 in E minor £12.50 £11.50 £10 £8.50 £6.50, £5.50 £4.50 Raymond Gubbay Ltd	
Monday 15 Feb 7.30 pm	THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC Jerzy Maksymiuk (conductor) Kun Woo Paik (piano) Haydn Symphony No. 79 Mozart Piano Concerto in B flat K.456 Stravinsky Concerto in D for strings, Ravel Duchnes and Childe Suites Nos. 1 & 2 £10.50 (only) London Philharmonic Enterprises Ltd	
Tuesday 16 Feb 7.30 pm	PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA Paul Sacher (conductor) Anne-Sophie Mutter (violin) Haydn Symphony No. 79 Mozart Violin Concerto in A K.219 Stravinsky Violin Concerto Bartok Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta RETURNS ONLY Philharmonia Ltd	
Wednesday 17 Feb 5.55 pm	CATHERINE ENNIS (organ) Le Maître Mystique Series Boëllmann Variations de Concert, Bach Chorale Preludes BWV (unspecified), Bedley Fanfare & Fugue, Vierne's Pièce Symphonique, Saint-Saëns Fantaisie in D flat, Op. 101 Messiaen Le Banquet céleste. Dedicated to Messiaen's Students. OAPs £1.50 to £1.50 The South Bank Board	
Wednesday 17 Feb 7.30 pm	THE ROYAL PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY English Chamber Orchestra Jeffrey Tate (cond) Evelyn Glennie (perc) Felicity Lott (sop) Barbirolli Concert Milhaud Concerto for marimba & vibraphone. Britten Les Illuminations. Strauss Le bourgeois gentilhomme £13.50 £11.50 £9.50 £7.50 £5.50 £3.50 RPS	
Thursday 18 Feb 7.30 pm	CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA The Westminster Singers Richard Hickox (cond) Simon Preston, Jean-Bernard Pommier, Patricia Kwella, John Shirley-Quirk Poulenc Organ Concerto, Ravel Le tombeau de Couperin Poulenc Piano Concerto Fauré Requiem £15 £12.50, £10 £7.50 £5 £3.50 City of London Sinfonia	
Friday 19 Feb 7.30 pm	POPULAR CLASSICS London Concert Orchestra Michael Reed (cond) Rossini Ov. William Tell Grieg Peer Gynt Suite No. 1. Rachmaninov Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini Tchaikovsky Swan Lake Suite Capriccio Italien, Elgar Pomp & Circumstance No. 1 £12.50, £11.50 £9.50 £8.50 £5.50 £3.50 Raymond Gubbay Ltd	
Saturday 20 Feb 7.30 pm	THE BACH CHOIR The London Philharmonic Sir David Willcocks (conductor) Joan Rodgers (sop) Sarah Walker (cont) Arthur Davies (ten) Gwynne Howell (bas) Beethoven Mass solemnis £11 £9.50 £8 £6.50 £3 The Bach Choir	
Sunday 21 Feb 3.15 pm	JENNIFER BATE (organ) Le Maître Mystique Series Messiaen: Livre du Saint Sacrement (in the presence of the composer) All seats £3. Students/OAPs £1.50 The South Bank Board	
Sunday 21 Feb 7.30 pm	PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA Giuseppe Sinopoli (conductor) Bruckner Symphony No. 8 £14 £11.50, £10 £9 £7.50 £6, £5, £3.50 £2 Philharmonia Ltd	
Monday 22 Feb 8.00 pm	THE STAN GETZ QUARTET with Mark Wilkins and Dutch Kitchen Bounce £10.50, £9.50 £6.50 £4 (only) Scuba Promotions Ltd	
Tuesday 23 Feb 7.30 pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Vernon Handley (conductor) Barry Griffiths (violin) Walton Ov. Portsmouth Point. Vaughan Williams Partita for double string orchestra, The Lark Ascending, Elgar Enigma Variations £20 £15.50 £12 £9 £7 £5.50 £4 RPO Ltd	
Wednesday 24 Feb 5.55 pm	JOHN SCOTT (organ) Le Maître Mystique Series de Grigny Veni creator Messiaen Messe de la Pentecôte All seats £3 Students/OAPs (B40) £1.50 The South Bank Board	
Wednesday 24 Feb 7.30 pm	PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA Giuseppe Sinopoli (conductor) Cheryl Studer (soprano) John Lill (piano) Wagner Tannhäuser — excerpts. Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3 Berg Lulu Suite £14 £11.50 £10 £9 £7.50 £6 £5 £3.50 £2 Philharmonia Ltd	
Thursday 25 Feb 7.30 pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Brighton Festival Chorus Pro Musica Chorus of London. Vernon Handley (conductor) Benjamin Luxon (baritone) Vaughan Williams A London Symphony, Walton Belshazzar's Feast £20 £15.50 £12 £9 £7 £5.50 £4 RPO Ltd	
Friday 26 Feb 7.30 pm	PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA Yuri Simonov (conductor) Xue Wei (violin) Mussorgsky Prelude and Dance of the Persian Maidens (Khovanshchina), Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto, Rachmaninov Symphony No. 2 £14 £11.50, £10, £9 £7.50, £6, £5 £3.50, £2 Philharmonia Ltd	

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Saturday 13 Feb 7.45 pm	BACH'S MUSICAL OFFERINGS London Bach Society. Steuart Bedford (cond) Bach Cantata, Herr Jesu Christ wahr' Mensch und Gott BWV 127 Recitatives I and II. The Musical Offering BWV 1079 Canons and Ricercar (Mass in B minor BWV 232) £8.50 £7.50 £6.50 £4.50 London Bach Society. Steuart Bedford	
Sunday 14 Feb 8.00 pm	PETER HAMMILL has first British performance since 1986. A full set of songs ranging across his career from pieces first recorded by his band Van der Graaf Generator to completely new material. The Rail and Sandbags Session improvisation by Peter Hammill & Guy Evans £7.50, £6.50 £5.50 Sanctuary	
Tuesday 15 Feb 1.10 pm	TWO BY TWO Foo Tseng gives a lunchtime piano recital. Chopin Prelude in C sharp min OP 45 Three Mazurkas Op 59 Debussy: Estampes Pagode, Soirée dans Grenade Jardins sous la pluie. Chopin Scherzo in B min Op 58 All seats £3 Inclusive lunchtime package £6.75 Students/OAPs (B40) £1.50 South Bank Board/Intermusica	
Wednesday 17 Feb 7.30 pm	THE ROYAL PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY English Chamber Orchestra Jeffrey Tate (cond) Evelyn Glennie (perc) Felicity Lott (sop) Barbirolli Concert Milhaud Concerto for marimba & vibraphone. Britten Les Illuminations. Strauss Le bourgeois gentilhomme £13.50 £11.50 £9.50 £7.50 £5.50 £3.50 RPS	
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QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Tuesday 16 Feb 7.45 pm	BEETHOVEN CONCERTO SERIES London Soloists Chamber Orchestra Pro Musica Chorus of London David Josefowitz (cond) Peter Donohoe (pno) Beethoven Ovt. The Ruins of Athens Piano Concerto No. 1 Choral Fantasia, Symphony No. 1 £9 £8.50 £6.50 £4 London Soloists Chamber Orchestra	
Wednesday 17 Feb 7.45 pm	GILES SWAYNE: CRY For 28 amplified voices BBC Singers John Poole (conductor) £7.50 £5 £3.50 The South Bank Board/BBC	
Thursday 18 Feb 7.15 pm	LONDON SINFONIETTA 20TH SEASON Esa-Pekka Salonen (cond) Edison Denisov Hommage à Pierre (first perf) Boulez Dérive, Improvisations I & II (from the section Pli) Debussy Sirène Garden (1st perf) plus works by Dallapiccola and Maderna. Pre-concert talk 6pm £9 £7 £5 £4 £2 Sinfonietta Prods	
Friday 19 Feb 7.45 pm	LONDON BACH ORCHESTRA Nicholas Kraemer (conductor) Handel Concerto Grosso in D minor Op 6/10 Locatelli Concerto Op 7 No. 2 Rameau Suite Les Fêtes d'Hebe Bach Harpsichord Concerto in A BWV 1054, Handel Concerto Grosso in D Op. 6 No. 5 £7.50 £6.50, £5.50 £4 (only) London Bach Orchestra Ltd	
Saturday 20 Feb 11.00 am	OPERA RESTORED A special children's performance of Pyramus and Thisbe, a mock opera by J. F. Lampe, fully staged & sung in English. An operatic extravaganza and a roaring lion, a singing wall & a scowling moon. Peter Holman (music dir) Jack Edwards (art dir) £4 £3 £2 Opera Restored	
Saturday 20 Feb 7.45 pm	OPERA RESTORED Purcell's ghost tragic opera Dido and Aeneas, set in the concert of the masque, in a double bill with J. F. Lampe's Pyramus and Thisbe. Both operas fully staged Peter Holman (music director) Jack Edwards (artistic director) Robin Lefebvre (designer) RETURNS ONLY Opera Restored	
Sunday 21 Feb 3.00 pm	MARIA JOAO PIRES (piano) Mozart Sonata in C K 330, Sonata in A, K.331. Ravel Jeux d'eau; Chopin Twenty-four Preludes, Op 28 Harrison/Parrott Ltd	
Sunday 21 Feb 7.45 pm	THE GREAT QUINTETS The Prazak Quartet Rafael Wallisch (cello) Beethoven Quartet in C minor Op 18 No 4, Smetana Quartet No 1 (From My Life) Schubert Quintet in C, D.956 £7.50 £4 (£5.50 only) The London Society of Chamber Music	
Monday 22 Feb 7.45 pm	INSURANCE ORCHESTRA Peter White (conductor) Richard Bay (cello) Lutoslawski Mala Suite Ives The Unanswered Question, Martinu Cello Concerto No. 2 Dvorak Symphony No. 9 (From the New World) £5.50 £4.50, £3.50 £2.50 Insurance Orchestral Society	
Tuesday 23 Feb 1.10 pm	TWO BY TWO Howard Shelley gives a lunchtime piano recital. Chopin Two Nocturnes, Scherzo in C sharp min Op 39; Debussy Images, Book 2, Chopin Fantaisie in F min Op 49, Polonaise in A flat Op 53. All seats £3. Inclusive lunchtime package £6.75 Students/OAPs (B40) £1.50 South Bank Board/Intermusica	
Tuesday 23 Feb 7.45 pm	HANDEL'S BIRTHDAY London Festival Orchestra Rosa Pople (dir) Ian Munro (prin) Handel Concerto Grosso in G min, Water Music Suite No. 1 in F, Handel/Festland Sonata in G min for 2 cellos, Mozart Piano Concerto in E flat, K.271 Grainger Handel in the Strand £8 £5 £4, £3 London Festival Orchestra	
Wednesday 24 Feb 7.45 pm	LONDON MOZART PLAYERS Jane Glover (cond) Eileen Hulse (sop) Mozart Symphony No. 40, Concert arias K.418 and K.217, Oliver Knussen Symphony No. 2 Haydn Symphony No. 91. Pre-concert talk 6.30 pm FREE, Free by concert ticket. £7 £6 £5 £4 (only) Haydn-Mozart Society	
Friday 26 Feb 7.45 pm	BACH MASS IN B MINOR Rosebery Orchestra Whitehall Choir Christopher Herrick (conductor) Juliet Booth (soprano) Joy Robinson (contralto) Ian Thomson (tenor) Michael Pearce (bass) £6.50 £4 £3 (only) Whitehall Choir	

PURCELL ROOM

Sunday 13 Feb 7.30 pm	ERIC HILL AND THE JOHN HORLER TRIO Bagpipes Episodes. Jonathan Lloyd-Jones Fiesta for guitar and piano Benedikt Sorel Other Time John Horler Jazz Pictures for Quartet (1st perf), Claude Bolling Concerto for classical guitar and jazz piano £6 £4 £3 Robert White Artists Management	
Sunday 14 Feb 7.30 pm	THE ALTERNATIVE VALENTINE SPECIAL The Song Is Ended Songs, duets and instrumental music from 1600 to 1970 to celebrate St Valentine's Day, including music by Dowland, Purcell, Handel, Mozart, Schumann, Brahms, Grainger, Gershwin, Billy Mayerl and Paul McCartney All seats £5 The Alternative Music Company	
Monday 15 Feb 6.00 pm	NATIONAL TRUST LECTURE SERIES 1988 Stamford Lough's Wattle — heritage in the balance An illustrated lecture by Dr. Robert Brown All seats £2.50 The National Trust	
Monday 15 Feb 8.00 pm	VIRGINIA BLACK (harpsichord) Programme includes J. C. Bach Sonata in A Op 17 No 5, Couperin Sixième Ordre Bach Fantasia and Fugue in A minor BWV 944, Sonatas by Soler and Scarlatti £6 £4.50 £3 United Concerts Company Ltd	
Tuesday 16 Feb 7.30 pm	MANUEL BLACKMORE (piano) Schubert Three Klavierstücke D.946, Shostakovich Sonata No 1, Liszt Petrarch Sonnets 47, 104, 123, Les jeux d'eau à la Villa d'Este (Années de Pèlerinage, troisième année), Etude No 3 (Un Sospiro), Hungarian Rhapsody No. 12 £4.50 £3.50 £2.50 Helen Jennings Concert Agency	
Wednesday 17 Feb 7.30 pm	IVAN LANGROISH MEMORIAL TRUST Paul Mealyan (cor) Helen Wills (mezz-sop) Steven Naylor (pno) Mozart/Beethoven Barmenkern (Magic Flute) Schubert Ellens gesange, Chopin Introd & Rondo Brillante, Verdi L'esule La seduzione, Non t'accostare all'urna; Stornello, Keddy Sonata £5 £4 £3 Vivian Langrish Memorial Trust	
Friday 18 Feb 7.30 pm	RAGTIME PLUS Keith Nichols (pno) (cond) Randolph Colville (clarinet) Richard Warner (gtr, banjo) Mike Piggott (vln) An exceptional evening of ragtime, jazz & boogie-woogie by Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton, Fats Waller, Duke Ellington and many others RETURNS ONLY John Wood	

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Tonight 13 Feb 7.45pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA – *A Theme with Variations* Richard Hickox cond. Felicity Palmer mezzo Philip Langridge tenor Gwynne Howell bass London Symphony Chorus Elgar: The Dream of Gerontius *SPONSORED BY BRITISH TELECOM* £13.50, £11.50, £7.50, £5.50, £3.50	
Mon 15 Feb 7.45pm	ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA Jeffrey Tate conductor William Bennett flute Frank Lloyd horn Mozart: Symphony No 39, K543; Flute Concerto No 2, K314; Horn Concerto No 3, K477; Symphony No 40, K550 £9, £7, £5 *Sponsored by Deloitte Haskins & Sells*	
Tue 16 Feb 7.45pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Nicholas Cleobury cond Philip Fowke piano Grieg: Peer Gynt Suite Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No 1 Dvořák: 'New World' Symphony £14, £12, £10, £8, £6 *Raymond Gubbay Ltd*	
Wed 17 Feb 7.45pm	VIENNA BOYS' CHOIR Peter Marschik conductor. Sacred and secular music inc. works by Pergolesi, Mozart, Schubert, Mahler, Poulenc and Roger Wagner. Viennese Lieder, Austrian Folksongs. Johann Strauss Waltzes and Polkas and one-act comic opera Tales from the Vienna Woods by Johann Strauss in full costume *Anglo-Austrian Society and Victor Hochhauser* £12.50, £11.50, £10	
Thu 18 Feb 7.45pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Pinal Freeman cond Sergiu Schwarz violin Alexis Golovin piano Rossini: Overture 'The Barber of Seville' Bruch: Violin Concerto Liszt: Piano Concerto No 1 Stravinsky: The Firebird Suite *1919 version* £13.50, £11.50, £9.50, £7.50, £5.50, £3.50	
Fri 19 Feb 7.45pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Yan Pascal Tortelier cond. Dirk Joeres piano Chabrier: Espana Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique *Sponsored by DHL Worldwide Express* £13, £11, £9.50, £6.50, £5, £3.50	
Sat 20 Feb 7.45pm	BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Yan Pascal Tortelier James Loughran conductor Paul Silverthorne viola Walton: Scapino, Comedy Ov. Musgrave: Viola Concerto Walton: Variations on a Theme by Hindemith Elgar: Enigma Variations £11, £8 £5, £2	
Sun 21 Feb 2.30pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos cond. Victoria Mullova violin Debussy: Prelude à l'après-midi d'un Faune Ravel: Rapsodie espagnole Stravinsky: Suite from 'Swan Lake' Suite Albeniz: Sevilla & Granada Weinberger: Polka and Fugue from 'Schwanda the Bagpiper' £13.50, £11.50, £9.50, £7.50, £5.50, £3.50	
Mon 22 Feb 7.45pm	CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF LONDON Ian Watson director/ harpsichord Vovka Ashkenazy piano Maurice Hasson violin Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No 3 Mozart: Piano Concerto No 21, K467 Vivaldi: The Four Seasons £12.50, £11.50, £10, £8.50, £6.50, £5.50 *Raymond Gubbay Ltd*	
Tue 23 Feb 7.45pm	POPULAR CLASSICS – National Symphony Orchestra David Coleman cond. Dominic Seligman piano Rossini: Ov. 'William Tell' Sibelius: Finlandia Grieg: Piano Concerto Strauss: Blue Danube Vaughan Williams: Fantasia 'Greensleeves' Mascagni: Intermezzo 'Cavalleria Rusticana' Elgar: Pomp and Circumstance Tchaikovsky: Marche Slave £12.50, £11.50, £10, £8.50 *Victor Hochhauser Ltd*	
Wed 24 Feb 7.45pm	BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA *A Theme with Variations* Lothar Zagrosek conductor Melvyn Poore tuba Bridge: Enter Spring Jonathan Harvey: Lightness and Weight *London premiere* Tippett: Symphony No 1 £11, £8, £5, £2	
Thu 25 Feb 7.45pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos cond. David Watkin piano Paloma O'Shea Piano *Competition Prize Winner* Schubert: 'Unfinished' Symphony R. Strauss: Don Juan Beethoven: 'Emperor' Piano Concerto £13.50, £11.50, £9.50, £7.50, £5.50, £3.50 *SPONSORED BY NIKON UK LIMITED*	
Fri 26 Feb 7.45pm	HALLE ORCHESTRA Stanislaw Skrowaczewski conductor Mstislav Rostropovich cello. Barbez: Overture La Corsaire Dvořák: Cello Concerto Shostakovich: Symphony No 1 £12.50, £10.50, £9.50, £8.50	

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA at the Barbican

Three Concerts conducted by

FRUHBECK DE BURGOS

LSO SUNDAY 21 FEBRUARY 7.30pm

DEBUSSY ..... Prelude à l'après-midi d'un Faune
SAINT SAENS ..... Intro. & Rondo Capriccioso
VIEUXTEMPS ..... Violin Concerto No. 5
TCHAIKOVSKY ..... Suite from Swan Lake
ALBENIZ ..... Sevilla and Granada
WEINBERGER ..... Polka and Fugue from 'Schwanda the Bagpiper'

VIKTORIA MULLOVA violin

Seat Prices £13.50 £11.50 £9.50 £7.50 £5.50 £3.50

LSO THURSDAY 25 FEBRUARY 7.45pm

SCHUBERT ..... Unfinished Symphony
R. STRAUSS ..... Don Juan
BEETHOVEN .... Emperor Piano Concerto
DAVID WEHR piano
Sponsored by NIKON UK LIMITED

Seat Prices £13.50 £11.50 £9.50 £7.50 £5.50 £3.50

LSO SUNDAY 28 FEBRUARY 7.30pm

MENDELSSOHN Elijah

ELIZABETH GALE ALFREDA HODGSON
ROBERT TEAR BENJAMIN LUXON
LONDON SYMPHONY CHORUS

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Horn Concerto No. 3 in E flat; Symphony No. 40 in G minor

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WILLIAM BENNETT (flute), FRANK LLOYD (horn)

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Music Director: VLADIMIR ASHKENAZY
FRIDAY 19 FEBRUARY at 7.45 pm
Conductor: YAN PASCAL TORTELIER
Soloist: DIRK JOERES

Chabrier ..... ESPANA
Gershwin ..... RHAPSODY IN BLUE
Berlioz ..... SYMPHONIE FANTASTIQUE

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Saturday Next 20 February at 7.45 pm
JAMES LOUGHRAN
PAUL SILVERTHORNE

WALTON — Scapino
THEA MUSGRAVE — Viola Concerto
WALTON — Hindemith Variations
ELGAR — Enigma Variations

Wednesday 24 February at 7.45
LOTHAR ZAGROSEK
MELVYN POORE

BRIDGE — Enter Spring
JONATHAN HARVEY — Lightness and Weight (1st London perf.)
MICHAEL TIPPETT — Symphony No. 1

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ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Grieg ..... PEER GYNT SUITE No. 1
Tchaikovsky ..... PIANO CONCERTO No. 1
Dvorak ... SYMPHONY No. 9 (NEW WORLD)
Conductor: NICHOLAS CLEOBURY PHILIP FOWKE piano
£6.50, £8.50, £10, £12.50, £14

MONDAY 22 FEBRUARY at 7.45 p.m.
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF LONDON
Bach ..... BRANDENBURG CONCERTO No. 3
Mozart ... PIANO CONCERTO No. 21 IN C, K467
Vivaldi ..... THE FOUR SEASONS
IAN WATSON director/harpsichord
VOVKA ASHKENAZY piano MAURICE HASSON violin
£5.50, £6.50, £8.50, £10, £11.50, £12.50

SATURDAY 27 FEBRUARY at 8 p.m.
PUCCINI GALA NIGHT
Prog. inc. La Bohemme: Che gelida manina; Si mi chiamano Mimi; O soave fanciulla; Madam Butterfly: Un bel dì; Humming Chorus; Love Duet; Tosca: Recondita armonia; Vissi d'arte; E lucevan le stelle; Gianni Schicchi: O mio babbino caro; La fanciulla del West: Ch'ella mi creda; Manon Lescaut: Intermezzo; Turandot: In questa reggia; Nessun dorma; Closing Scene
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA LONDON CHORALE
Conductor: PAUL WYNNE GRIFFITHS
ELIZABETH VAUGHAN, ERIAN DAVIES sopranos
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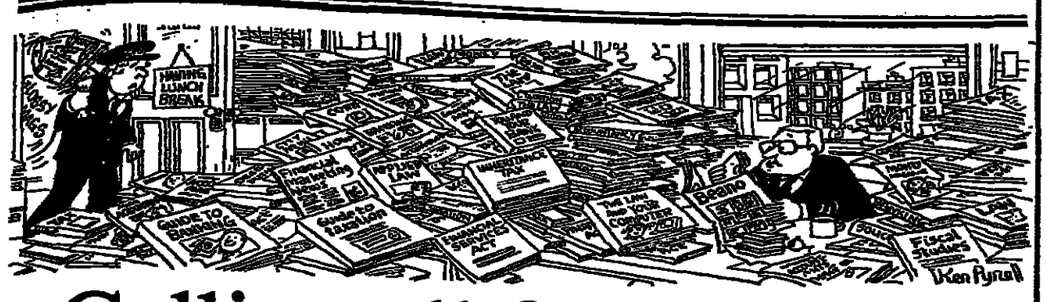
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Friday 19 Feb 7.30 pm	DOUGLAS BOYD oboe/RICHARD LESTER cello/HAROLD LESTER harpsichord Couperin: Sonata for oboe &

LEGAL AND FINANCIAL



Calling all fast readers

This was the week I should have taken that speed reading course I had always promised myself but never found time for. "Go out and collect a cross-section of books and briefing papers from the top accountants and lawyers", they said. "Read them. Digest them. And come back and give us a review."

Frankly, by the time I had trailed around the City, collecting six carrier bags' worth of material, I was in no fit state to write anything. But the deadline called and so now I find myself, in rank order, an expert on the legal and practical consequences of the Financial Services Act (courtesy of Slaughter & May).

I am well qualified on the details of inheritance tax (for which my children will be eternally indebted to Price Waterhouse); a dab hand at the Data Protection Act (thanks to Titmuss Sainer & Webb); and my knowledge of industrial building allowances is on firm foundations (with acknowledgements to Peat Marwick McLintock).

Finally, in my spare time, I am holding expensive seminars for overseas investors on setting up a business in the UK (from which Lovell White & King is taking a 10 per cent commission, as I learned everything I know from their excellent guide to the subject).

In short, it was like doing an intense Open University degree in Applied Law and Practical Accounting. I don't know what it does to the clients but it certainly made a man out of me.

Of course, as Robert Brooke, at Price Waterhouse, emphasized to me: "There's more to these booklets than meets the eye."

On the face of it PW might seem to be giving away all their expertise and the secrets of their trade. For example, they now have about 180 publications on offer, ranging across UK taxation, banking and financial services, the computer environment and the public sector.

In a couple of cases publication is done in conjunction with the Institute of Chartered Accountants. Their *Business Start-Up Check List*, for example, provides an excellent aide memoire for new entrepreneurs to check out the vital technical details of their accounts and legal procedures. And nothing could be simpler than their *Guide to Going Public*. But if the clients are given all the information they need why should they want advice as well?

"Publications are part of the firm's marketing mix", said Robert Brooke. "And we only want publications which actually support the business objectives. What we produce is material which whets the client's appetite. After they have read one of these publications we hope that they will decide to come back to us for individual advice."

Even so, there is bound to be a risk that readers will take the publication and run. After word got round that PW had a first-rate guide to inheritance tax, the firm received 3,500 requests for copies. Nothing like as many came back as proper clients. And Richard Youard at Slaughter & May has certainly noticed that although the requests are numerous for the firm's more popular publications, the number of clients picked up as a result are so few as to be insignificant.

By Edward Fennell

Publications have now become accepted, however, as virtually a free public service. Peat Marwick has four staff permanently employed dealing with the 500 requests which pour in every day for their range of booklets. And PW has a print run of 50,000 for its pocket tax book.

Of course, the number of publications put out by the law firms is always significantly fewer than the accountants. For example, Lovell White & King, Titmuss Sainer & Webb and Slaughter & May all have around a dozen each, compared with the 200 or more new titles which Peat Marwick produces each year. And the budgets, too, are quite different.

Peat Marwick spends about £1¼ million each year on its output and since last August it has employed a full, glossy, in-house design team as good as anything in Covent Garden. Titmuss Sainer & Webb, by contrast, makes use of typewriters and photocopying at the "Instaprint across the road".

Who is to tell which is the more effective. Geoffrey Davies at Titmuss Sainer believes that a carefully-targeted publication, albeit simple in terms of design (like one recently produced by the firm's Construction Law Unit on the Joint Contracts Tribunal Management Contract 1987), can still be very useful in demonstrating expertise to a potential client.

Titmuss Sainer believes strongly in letting ideas for new publications "bubble up from below." It is then a test of keenness (and a way of making one's mark in the firm) to sit down and actually write the thing. Even so, most outfits now recognize the importance of "readability" and have a vetting system on what is appropriate for the audience.

Just because you are an enthusiast for the 1986 Insolvency Act it doesn't mean that you can write about it untutored. Indeed in some case a booklet may not be the answer at all.

"I sometimes try to discourage partners from producing a book", said publications manager Wilf Peskett, at Peat Marwick, "because often there are better ways of getting the message across — especially to a small, well-defined audience."

Certainly, one of the time-consuming exercises in many firms lies in deciding who will get which publications. Arthur Andersen has the whole thing computerized so that clients' record of interests automatically trigger a despatch of an appropriate publication and some of the lawyers are aiming for a similar system but at a more personal level.

As Andrew Walker at Lovell White & King explained: "The despatch of their book for overseas businessmen (*The Establishment of Business in Great Britain by a Foreign Corporation*), with an accompanying letter, is a sign of professionalism and a good introduction to people who may not yet be fully committed to working with you."

So remember — if you want to do the business, first write the book.

Donne Mileham & Haddock

In my article "Martyrs en route to Heaven" (January 23), I suggested that the Law Society had hauled Donne Mileham & Haddock, the Brighton-based solicitors, and their marketing partner, Simon Leney, "over the coals for sending out mail shots to existing clients."

In fact the Solicitors Complaints Bureau rejected a complaint by Mr Barratt against Donne Mileham & Haddock on January 27 making it clear that "there is nothing improper in a solicitor sending out mail shots to clients". My apologies to Donne Mileham & Haddock and Mr Leney.

Law Report February 13 1988

Zoning nearby is relevant to rates

Clement (Valuation Officer) v Addis Ltd

Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Oliver of Aylmerton and Lord Goff of Chieveley

[Speeches February 11]

Where the creation of an enterprise zone adversely affected the value of a factory situated outside but near the designated area, such a consequence should be taken into account in determining, upon a proposal made by the ratepayers, the rateable value of the factory at that time under section 20(1) of the General Act 1967.

The House of Lords so held allowing an appeal by the ratepayers, Addis Ltd, from the decision of the Court of Appeal.

Section 20 of the 1967 Act provides: "(1) For the purposes of any alteration of a valuation list to be made under Part V of this Act in respect of a hereditament in pursuance of a proposal, the value or altered value to be ascribed to the hereditament under section 19 of this Act shall not exceed the value which would have been ascribed thereto in that list if the hereditament had been subsisting throughout the year before that in which the valuation list came into force, on the assumptions that at the time by reference to which that value would have been ascertained: (a) the hereditament was in the same state as at the time of the valuation and any relevant factors . . . were those subsisting at the last-mentioned time; and (b) the locality in which the hereditament is situated was in the same state, so far as concerns the other premises situated in that locality and the occupation and use of those premises, the transport services and other facilities available in the locality, and other matters affecting the amenities of the locality, as at the time of valuation."

Mr Guy Roots for the ratepayers; Mr William Glover, QC and Mr David Mole for the valuation officer.

LORD KEITH said that the ratepayers occupied a factory situated just under a mile to the south of an area of land which by order dated May 18, 1981 the Secretary of State for Wales designated as the Lower Swansea Valley Enterprise Zone. One result of that had been to depress the rental values of commercial and industrial premises situated outside but near the designated area.

That was because it was substantially more attractive to operate such concerns inside that area. The appropriate rateable value of the ratepayers' factory was £36,500 if the consequences of the enterprise zone were taken into account, and £45,000 if they were not.

The question in dispute was whether or not, on a proper construction of section 20 of the 1967 Act, it was correct to take into account those consequences in determining, upon a proposal made by the ratepayers on March 18, 1981, the rateable value of the factory at that time.

It was common ground that although the proposal was made before the date of the order designating the enterprise zone, the prospect of it had already produced the result described above. The local valuation court and the Lands Tribunal decided that the consequences of the enterprise zone were properly to be taken into account but the Court of Appeal took the contrary view.

The principal enactment providing the manner of valuation for rating of hereditaments in England and Wales was section 19 of the 1967 Act. One of the features of a valuation under section 19 was that the hereditament was to be valued in its actual state — *rebus sic stantibus* — at the date of the valuation, with all the advantages and disadvantages which it then possessed.

It was clear that if the ratepayers' factory were to be valued under section 19 alone as at the date of the proposal in the present case the disadvantage which it suffered through being outside but close to the enterprise zone would be a factor properly to be taken into account.

However, the proposal was one made under section 69 of the 1967 Act, for an alteration of the valuation list which came into force on April 1, 1973 and in relation to such a proposal the effect of section 19 was modified by section 20. By virtue of that section the valuation was not to exceed that which would have been ascribed to the hereditament if it had been in existence throughout the year before April 1, 1973.

The broad purpose of section 20 was to secure that a hereditament which, for one reason or another, fell to be valued at a time after the coming into force of a valuation list should be valued on the basis of the general level of values prevailing when the list was made up. It was not apparent that there was any good reason for requiring the disregard of any of the circumstances which would ordinarily be taken into account under the *rebus sic stantibus* rule.

If any of such circumstances were to be disregarded, the result would necessarily be to some extent artificial. The expression *rebus sic stantibus* raised the concept of a certain ascertainable state of affairs.

It would involve no undue straining of language to conclude that when paragraph (a) of section 20(1) referred to the hereditament being "in the same state as at the time of the valuation" the meaning was that the whole state of affairs affecting the hereditament was to be assumed to be the same, at the time of the coming into force of the last valuation list, as it was at the time when the valuation was being made.

The result would be that the *rebus sic stantibus* rule would be applied to its full extent. But the reference to a defined category of specified relevant factors made that difficult, and moreover it would make paragraph (b) unnecessary.

Since, however, there was no readily perceptive reason for limiting the application of the *rebus sic stantibus* rule, the word "state" should in his Lordship's opinion be given a wide construction, so as to include intangible as well as physical advantages and disadvantages.

Paragraph (a) was not directly in point in the present case. It was paragraph (b) which the ratepayers sought to apply, on the ground that the state of the locality in which the hereditament was situated included the relative advantages enjoyed by some other premises there situated through the creation of the enterprise zone.

"State" must have the same wide meaning in paragraph (a) that it had in paragraph (b). His Lordship would therefore hold that the existence of those advantages was an intangible factor which went to the state of the locality as regarded other premises situated there.

One effect of the circumstances affecting those other premises was to reduce the value of hereditaments in the same locality which did not enjoy the same advantages because they were not in the enterprise zone. Therefore on a proper construction of section 20 the effects of the enterprise zone on the value of the ratepayers' factory were properly to be taken into account.

Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Brandon, Lord Oliver and Lord Goff agreed.

Solicitors: McKenna & Co; Solicitor, Inland Revenue.

Council report necessary for issue of court certificate

Regina v Dudley Magistrates' Court, Ex parte G

Before Lord Justice Glidewell and Mr Justice French

[Judgment February 3]

A magistrates' court had power to issue a certificate under section 23 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 and the Certificate of Unruly Character (Conditions) Order (SI 1977 No 1037) after it had received a report from the local authority on the availability of suitable accommodation. An exception was when there had not been time to receive a report from the local authority but where there had been time and the local authority had failed or refused to provide a report the failure or refusal did not enable the court to issue the certificate.

The Divisional Court of the Queen's Bench Division so held in granting an order of *certiorari* to quash an order of Dudley Magistrates' Court issuing the certificate on August 11, 1987, following which the applicant, then aged 15, was remanded in custody.

Miss Elizabeth Anne Norman for the applicant; the justices did not appear and were not represented.

MR JUSTICE FRENCH said that a welfare worker had made certain inquiries and had then declined to make a report to the magistrates.

It had been contended for the applicant that the magistrates' court had no jurisdiction to make such an order without a report from the local authority unless there had not been time to make such a report. After reviewing the legislation, it was plain that that submission must succeed.

If any support was needed it could be found in the case of *R v Leicester City Juvenile Justices, Ex parte K. D. C.* ((1984) 84 LGR 110, 116) where Lord Justice Robert Goff had said: "The effect of paragraph 3 of the order is not to deprive the court of its power, but to regulate its exercise by imposing conditions which have to be fulfilled." An order of *certiorari* would be granted to quash the justices' order.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL, agreeing, added that the effect of the *Leicester* case was that if the local authority did report to the court on the question of whether there was suitable accommodation available then the court was entitled to issue such a certificate even if there was no agreement on remand in custody.

The effect of the decision of the Divisional Court was that the local authority had deprived the court of jurisdiction. There was apparently a dispute between the court and the local authority.

It was not for the Divisional Court to decide that question and his Lordship mentioned it only because he agreed with a suggestion made by counsel that if the question was to be resolved it could only be by an application to bring the matter before the Divisional Court for an order of *mandamus* directed to the local authority.

Solicitors: Bernard Oberman & Co, for Fawcett and Pattni, Walsall.

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Continued from page 36

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ROYAL COURT S CC 730 1745. Till 29 Feb Royal Court Theatre presents Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester production of A WHOLLY HEALTHY GLASGOW by Iain Heggie. Dir Richard Wilson. Mon - Sat 8pm. Sat mat 4pm

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SHAFTESBURY THEATRE 379 5399 24hrs cc 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) 741 9999 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123 BEST MUSICAL Laurence Olivier Awards 1987 Drama Magazine Awards 1987 Evgs at 8 Mats Sat 3 Standard Drama Awards 1987 BEST MUSICAL DIANA RIGG JULIA McKENZIE DANIEL MASSEY DAVID HEALY & DOLORES GRAY FOLLIES The Sondheim/Goldman Musical "A TRULY FANTASTIC EVENING" F.T. Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3. APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS Box office phones open 9am-9pm Discounts available for groups for Wed Mats.

ST MARTIN'S 01-836 1443. Special CC No. 379 4444. Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45, Sat 6.0 and 8.0 36TH YEAR OF AGATHA CHRISTIE'S THE MOUSETRAP

STRAND 836 2660 cc 836 1443/5190 1st Call 240 3464 (bkg fee) Credit Grps 930 6123 BARRY HUMPHRIES "THE GREATEST COMIC EN-TERTAINER OF OUR TIME" Ind in BACK WITH A VENGEANCE! "BY FAR THE FUNNIEST NEW SHOW OF THE YEAR... PHENOMENAL, EXPLOSIVE AND ENTERTAINING" Obs Mon-Fri 7.30 Sat 2.30 & 8. Season extended to June 11

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VAUDEVILLE 836 9987/5645 PAULINE COLLINS in SHIRLEY VALENTINE By Willy Russell Directed by Simon Callow "Handmaids, wives, nuns, daughters, friends and lovers treat yourselves" D. Mail. Eves 7.30 Mats Wed 2.30 1st Call 24hr 7 day cc 836 2428 (bkg fee) CCTB 741 9999 (no bkg fee)

VICTORIA PALACE Box Office & CC 834 1317 cc 741 9999 1st Call 24hr 7 day 240 7200 (bkg fee) Open All Hours 379 4444 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123. ROBERT HARDY & VIRGINIA McKENNA in WINNIE A New Musical Prevs from May 19

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WHITEHALL 01 930 7765/839 4455 cc 379 6565/741 9999/379 4444/bkg fee 240 7200 Grps 836 3962 From 16 Feb THE NEW TRIPLE AWARD WINNING COMEDY Annette Crosbie Sheila Ballantine Alfred Lynch Ralph Nossek Philip Bird Marty Cruickshank Gwen Nelson Stella Moray "AS FINE A PLAY AND PLAYING AS YOU WILL FIND THIS SIDE OF PARADISE" Daily Mail CURTAINS by Stephen Bill "EXPLOSIVELY FUNNY" Times Mon - Thurs 8pm Frt & Sat 6 & 8.45 pm

WYNDHAM'S 836 3028 CC 379 6565/4444 (no bkg fee) and 741 9999/240 7200 (bkg fee) Groups 836 3962. BEST PLAY Olivier Awards 87 And 4 other major Awards Royal Court production of Caryl Churchill's SERIOUS MONEY Directed by Max Stafford-Clark Mon to Thu 8.0 Fri 5.0 & 8.15. Sat 4.0 & 8.15

ART GALLERIES

BANKSIDE GALLERY 48 Hopton Street, SE1. (Blackfriars Tube) 01 928 7521. ACKROYD, NORMAN ACKROYD, RE, with colourful prints by CARMEN SERADA, RE, and exotic watercolours by JENNY WHEATLEY, RWS. To 2nd March. Tuesday 10am-8pm. Weds-Sat 10am-5pm. Sunday 1pm-5pm, closed Mondays.

BRITISH LIBRARY, Gt Russell Street, London WC1. ARMENIAN ILLUMINATED GOSPEL BOOKS. Mon-Sat 10-5. Sun. 2.30-6. Adm. Free.

CCA GALLERIES, 9 Dover Street, W1. Collectibles I, 22nd - 15th Feb. A mixed exhibition of Original Prints including new work by: Dashkiewicz, Fasch, Wesson, Schwabe, Secunda and Tems. Also including work by Hockney.

CCA Watercolour Exhibition, 17th February - 1st March. An Exhibition of work by a wide range of artists from the well known to the bright new talents. Artists include Patrick Procktor, Norman Adams ARA, Bill Bomper RA, RWS, and many others. Selected Master Prints always available by artists such as Picasso, Miro, Chagall, Hockney, Moore and others. Galleries also in Bath, Fareham, and Oxford. Mon-Fri 9.30 - 5.30, Sat 10 - 4.

CHRISTOPHER HULL GALLERY 17 Motcomb St. London, SW1 SARAH SECKETT & DAVID LEWIS Recent paintings.

FINE ART SOCIETY 148 New Bond St. W1. 01-629 5116. GILBERT LEDWARD RA.

GALLERY 10, 10 Grosvenor St. W1. 01-491 8105. AN EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS OF THE FIFTIES Until Sat 27 Feb.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, St. Martin's Place, London WC1. Tel. 01-930 1552. VICKY, CARTOONS BY VICTOR WEISZ 1913-66. Until 6 March. Adm. free Mon-Fri 10-5 Sat 10-6 Sun 2-6

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, Piccadilly W1. 01-734 9052. Open daily 10-6 inc. Sun. (reduced rate 2pm until 1.45). AGE OF CHIVALRY : ART IN PLANTAGENET ENGLAND 1200 - 1400. Closing soon 6th March.

TATE GALLERY, Millbank SW1. YOUNG TURNER. Until 20 Mar. DOUGLAS COOPER COLLECTION. Until 4 Apr. Recorded info. 01-821 7128

CINEMAS

CAMDEN PLAZA opp. Camden Town tube 485 2443 HAIL, HAIL ROCK 'N ROLL (PG) Starring Chuck Berry. 1.10 3.35 6.05 8.35.

CHELSEA CINEMA Kings Road SW3 351 3742 Jodie Foster's THE ACCUSED (U) 1.40 3.30 5.20 7.15 9.10.

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 499 3737. Yves Montand in MANON DES SOURCES (PG) Film at 1.15 (not Sun) 3.35 6.00 8.30. "It has the mark of a classic" Times.

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St off Charing Cross Rd 240 9661 ALEC GUINNESS & DEREK JACOBI in LITTLE DORRIT (U) Part 1: Mon, Wed, 12.30; Fri, Sat, Sun, Tues, Thurs, 4.00; Fri, Mon, Wed 7.30. Part 2: Fri, Sat, Tues, Thurs 12.30; Mon, Wed 4.00; Sat, Sun, Tues, Thurs, 7.30.

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 439 4805. GRETA SCACCHI & CHARLES DANCE in WHITE MISCHIEF (18) Film at 2.00 (not Sun) 4.10 6.20 8.40

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE 930 6262 (Emu)/930 7615 (24 hr Access/ Visa/ AmEx Bookings) ROBOCOP (18) Sep progs Daily 11.10 (Not Sun) 1.35 4.00 6.40 9.30. Late Night Show Fri & Sat 12.15. All progs bookable in advance

LUMIERE CINEMA St Martin's Lane WC2 379 3014/836 0691 Stephen Frears' SAMMY AND ROSIE GET LAID (18) 2.15 4.25 6.40 8.55 Late Show Fri & Sat 11.15 pm.

MINEMA 45 KNIGHTSBRIDGE 235 4225 FULL METAL JACKET (18) Daily 2.30 4.45 7.0 9.15. Mon and Thurs. 18 Feb. From Fri. 19 Feb. British Premiere of 90 DAYS (Mail Order Renewal).

ODEON HAYMARKET (839 7697) INTIMATE AND I (18) Sep progs Daily 1.00 3.30 6.00 8.45 Late Night Show Fri & Sat 11.30pm. All seats bookable in advance. Access and Visa telephone bookings welcome.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) Info 930 4250 / 4259. NO WAY OUT (15) Sep progs Daily 12.45 3.15 5.45 8.25 Late Night Show Fri & Sat Doors open 11.15pm. All progs bookable in advance Credit Card Hot Line (Access/Visa/ Amex) 930 3232 or 839 1929, 24 hour service.

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RENOIR Brunswick Sq. WC1 (RUSSELL SQUARE TUBE) 837 8402 1 Eric Rohmer's 4 ADVENTURES OF REINETTE & MIRABELLE (U) 2.25 4.30 6.40 8.50. 2 ANGEL DUST (Fassbinder d'Ange) (15) 2.40 4.45 6.50 9.00

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CRICKET: NOTTINGHAM PAIR REWRITE THE SCRIPT AS HADLEE SRTUGGLES IN HERO'S ROLE FOR NEW ZEALAND

Broad and Robinson take control

From Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent
Christchurch

The general assumption that the opening day of this Test series would belong to a favourite son of Nottingham proved perfectly correct. Only the name was wrong. Instead of Richard Hadlee dominating proceedings on his home town ground at Lancaster Park, it was his old county team-mates, Chris Broad and Tim Robinson.

This subtle twist in the commonly accepted script could have an immense bearing on what is to come. Hadlee's name has been used to taunt and torture England ever since they arrived here, and the very fact that he was frustrated when all New Zealand expected him to create history and then mayhem ought to do nothing but good for England's previously shaky confidence.

Poor Hadlee suffered a wretched day. When New Zealand won the toss on a damp, murky morning and predictably chose to bowl first, the odds against Hadlee taking, at the very least, the one wicket he needed to overhaul Ian Botham's 373 at the head of the Test bowlers' list, would have discouraged all except those who feel compelled to bet against certainties.

The long shot came in. Hadlee, never quite himself, endured two fruitless sessions, involving 18 overs of high pressure and high anticipation, then, as the ultimate anticlimax, took no part after tea owing to a slightly strained right calf sustained in the field.

Broad, meanwhile, was enjoying a healthy share of luck in his customary imperturbable fashion, and proceeding serenely to his third century in his last four Test matches and his sixth in only nine he has played outside England. Like many of his previous innings, it was not rich in grace or power, but memorable for the way in which he could be beaten three times in succession, and then, utterly unconcerned, hit the next two balls for four.

Robinson, his opening partner at Trent Bridge, played the innings of the day. I cannot believe he has ever batted with the conviction he has consistently shown in the past three weeks, and he looked bound for a well-merited century until contributing to the improbably impressive figures of Danny Morrison, who neither looks nor bowls like the great white hope he is alleged to be.

The scorebook tells a different story. Morrison finished the day with three for 36, dismissing Robinson and Mike Gatting in rapid succession as England declined after tea. If I venture the view that he looked startlingly innocuous and bowled an indecent number of bad balls, his defence is simply to point to the evidence.

The England batsmen were troubled much more regularly by the other three New Zealand seamers, especially Ewan Chatfield, who must scarcely be able to believe he failed to take a wicket. "He was very unlucky," Broad conceded later. "I think God was on our side today."

It did not look that way in the early stages. England had dreaded being put in on a pitch damp and green enough to encourage even a modest seamer, let alone the great Hadlee. Perhaps, just for once, the occasion was too much for the man. As Broad suggested: "There has been so much pressure put on him this week that it was bound to tell. It seemed to everyone that this was the ideal time and place for him to break the record. We had other ideas."

Broad was beaten twice in Hadlee's eventful first over; Moxon was similarly embarrassed in his second. But after Moxon had gone, a diffident prod against Morrison giving a catch to short-leg and raising further questions about his technique, Hadlee was confronted with two men he knows almost too well. The contest was intriguing, and the Nottinghamshire Englishmen defeated the county's adopted superstar.

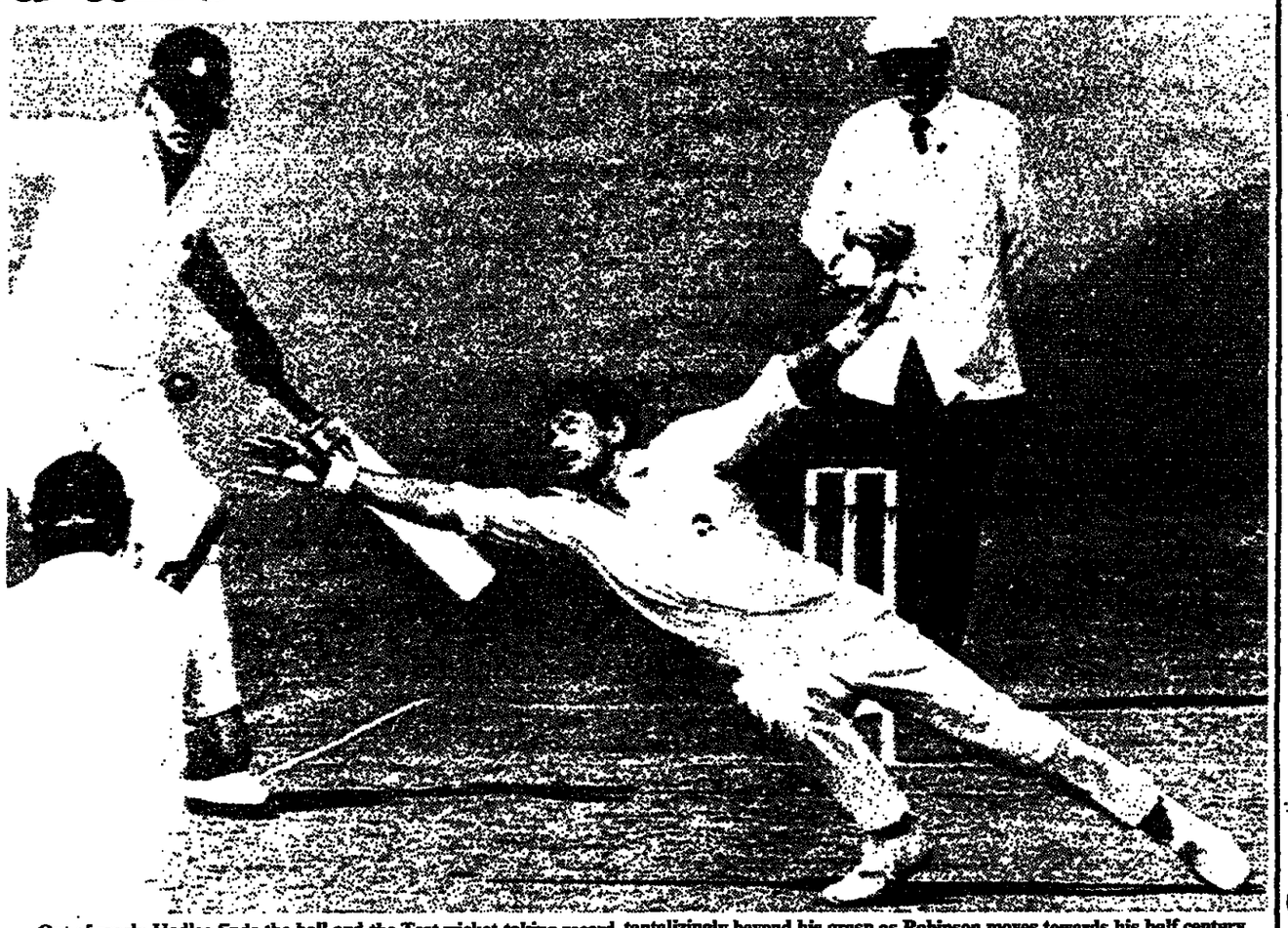
Hadlee, in all, bowled four spells. Each time, the disappointingly sparse crowd began to buzz expectantly. Each time, he beat the bat with an occasional unplayable ball. Each time he plodded off into the outfield at the end of his spell to ponder just what was going wrong.

Broad has a theory that Hadlee is much less effective against left-handers, that he tends to bowl too straight to them, and invite the forcing on-side stroke. Broad also has a theory about batting, which he abruptly offered to someone who suggested he had used up more than his quota of luck. "You can't have seen me bat very often," he retorted. "I don't mind playing and missing. I would love to go out and hit every ball in the middle of the bat, but on uneven pitches I accept it isn't possible. It was a challenge today, and I am not one who gives up very easily."

Although Robinson was beaten just as often, was hit painfully on glove and groin, and also dropped by Wright when 29, his struggles were punctuated by shots of freedom alien to the circumstances. An on-drive off Chatfield and a thunderous cover drive against Hadlee were the pick, both travelling easily for four over a lush, holding outfield.

Perhaps it was the absence of Hadlee which duped England after tea. Whatever the reason, they lost three wickets for 64 in the final two hours, and sacrificed their supremacy. Robinson and Gatting were both out to long-hops, Robinson getting only a thin edge to a pull and the captain, his eyes bigger than his appetite, thrashing a cut high to cover.

Broad, rather aptly, reached his century in 282 minutes by edging Snedden wide of third slip. Then, visibly tired, he survived two good leg before appeals before being splendidly caught by the wicket-keeper, Smith, off the same bowler. Athey and Capel lived dangerously to the end, but it was that type of pitch



Out of reach: Hadlee finds the ball and the Test wicket-taking record tantalizingly beyond his grasp as Robinson moves towards his half century

Stronger squad

Worcestershire have signed Steve O'Shaughnessy, the Lancashire all-rounder, to strengthen their squad in the event of further Test calls next season on Ian Botham, Graham Dilley and Neal Radford. Duncan Fearnley, the chairman, said: "It makes good sense to us to sign up a player of Steve's ability and experience. In the last 12 months we have had three players in the England team and we are certain that one or two more will be pushing for recognition very soon." O'Shaughnessy, aged 26, was released by Lancashire at the end of last season.

Jones joins in the run feast

Perth (Reuter) — Dean Jones hit his third century as Australia took full toll of the Sri Lankan attack and a fast pitch on the first day of the first Test match yesterday.

Each of the top four Australian batsmen scored more than 50 — the only fear being the Australian phobia of their final tally: 333 for three.

Sri Lanka's attack, based on four medium-pace bowlers, posed few problems after Marsh and Boon, the opening batsmen, gratefully greeted a stream of wide deliveries from Ratnayeke and Labrooy to reach their fifth century opening partnership when Labrooy yorked Marsh.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

G R Marsh b Labrooy	53
D C Boon b Ratnayeke	64
D M Jones not out	100
*A R Border b Ratnayeke	68
M R J Veletta not out	10
Extras (lb 9, nb 5, w 4)	18
Total (for 3 wkts)	333

S R Waugh, †G C Dyer, P L Taylor, M G Hughes, A I C Dodemaide and C J McDermott to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-120, 2-133, 3-289.

BOWLING: Ratnayeke 21-4-55-2; Labrooy 24-2-85-1; Ramanayake 13-1-44-0; Amalean 11-0-58-0; Kaluperuma 13-0-62-0; Ranatunga 8-2-18-0; Aravinde de Silva 1-0-2-0.

SRI LANKA: *R S Madugalle, D B S P Kuruppu, R S Mahanama, S Kaluperuma, E A R De Silva, A Ranatunga, †R G de Alwis, J R Ratnayeke, G F Labrooy, C Ramanayake and K Amalean.

India stayaway

Delhi (AFP) — The India Government, concerned over the security of the team in trouble-torn Bangladesh, has refused to clear the Board of Control for Cricket in India's proposal to take part in the Asia Cup in Dhaka from February 22 to 29.

SCOREBOARD FROM CHRISTCHURCH

New Zealand won toss

ENGLAND
First innings

		6s	4s	Mins	Balls
B C Broad c Smith b Snedden	114	0	11	341	244
M D Moxon c Jones b Morrison	1	0	0	25	19
R T Robinson c Smith b Morrison	70	0	7	223	182
*M W Gatting c sub (Greatbatch) b Morrison	8	0	1	24	18
C W J Athey not out	18	0	0	94	82
D J Capel not out	10	0	1	27	23
Extras (lb 7, nb 7)	14				
Total (4 wkts, 90 overs)	235				

P A J DeFreitas, J E Emburey, †B N French, P W Jarvis, G R Dilley did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-175, 3-187, 4-219.

BOWLING: Hadlee 18-3-50-0; Morrison 13-2-36-3; Chatfield 27-8-56-0; Snedden 26-7-70-1; Bracewell 6-1-16-0.

NEW ZEALAND

T J Franklin, J G Wright, A H Jones, M D Crowe, *J J Crowe, R J Hadlee, J G Bracewell, †I D S Smith, M C Snedden, D K Morrison, E J Chatfield.

Umpires: B L Aldridge and S J Woodward

RACING

Forgive'N Forget poised to repeat Leopardstown win

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

The decision of David Barons, never previously a challenger for an Irish race, to send Playschool to take on Forgive'N Forget at Leopardstown this afternoon not only guarantees a much more competitive race for the Vincent O'Brien Irish Gold Cup, but provides an important trial for next month's Cheltenham Gold Cup.

Playschool has come a long way since being beaten emphatically by Kildimo in the Sun Alliance Chase at last season's National Hunt Festival, but this term he has claimed two major long-distance handicap chases, the Hennessy Gold Cup and the Welsh Grand National.

At Chepstow, he beat a former Irish Grand National winner, Rhyme'N Reason, in a rousing finish, while at Newbury he had five lengths to spare over Contradeal. But to put the Hennessy win in perspective, he carried only 10st 8lb and that leaves with something to find against the former Cheltenham Gold Cup winner Forgive'N Forget.

In the first running of the Vincent O'Brien Irish Gold Cup last season, Forgive'N Forget achieved a facile win, but the form on the day did not add up to a great deal. The runner-up, Very Promising, had no real pretensions to staying three miles, while the third-placed Barrow Line was only a novice.

Forgive'N Forget has not won since, and fell at the last behind Nupsala in the King George VI Chase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day. His supporters maintain that he would have stretched the winner had he not come to grief, but for my money Nupsala was going much the better at the time and I do not believe the result would have been any different.

Although six Irish-trained chasers have been declared, two, Starquogan and Weather The Storm, are almost certain non-runners.

Barrow Line could once again do best of the home team, although he has yet to live up to the potential he showed as a novice. Royal Bond, at 15 years of age, represents a generation of chasers now almost entirely vanished but he retains his form wonderfully well, and it was a good display to finish fourth under top weight to Sound Judgement in the Findus Handicap Chase over this course and distance at Christmas.

At his best though Royal Bond never quite scaled the heights of Forgive'N Forget, to whom I give slight preference over Playschool.

● BBC Television had intended to include the race in today's *Grandstand* programme, but owing to a continuing labour dispute in Irish Television it is unlikely that there will be any pictures from Leopardstown.

LEOPARDSTOWN FIELD BBC1

Going: soft

2.45 VINCENT O'BRIEN IRISH GOLD CUP (Listed race: Ir£44,225: 3m) (8 runners)

1	1/1324F	BARROW LINE 46 (C,S) (J Foley) P Hughes 11-12-0	F Berry
2	P3000-0	BOLD AGENT 13 (C,S) (P Gleeson) E O'Connell 12-12-0	K F O'Brien
3	U2404-4	BRUGES 35 (BF,F,S) (J Mullion) D Hughes 11-12-0	C F Swan
4	1410-2F	FORGIVE'N FORGET 49 (CD,G,S) (Kilroe) Jimmy Fitzgerald 11-12-0	M Dwyer
5	3-F2131	PLAYSCHOOL 47 (D,F,G,S) (R Coste) D Barons 10-12-0	P Nicholls
6	221234-	ROYAL BOND 47 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs G Malcolmson) A Moore 15-12-0	T J Taaffe
7	2212-00	STARQUOGAN 2 (D,F,G,S) (E Kearns) E Kearns 9-12-0	—
8	423211-	WEATHER THE STORM 46 (C,G,S) (F Conroy) A Moore 8-12-0	—

● Starquogan and Weather The Storm are doubtful runners

BETTING: 5-4 Forgive'N Forget, 7-4 Playschool, 6-1 Barrow Line, 8-1 Royal Bond, 10-1 Weather The Storm, 33-1 Bruges, 50-1 Starquogan, 100-1 Bold Agent.

1987: FORGIVE'N FORGET 10-12-0 M Dwyer (5-4 fav) Jimmy Fitzgerald 9 ran

FORM FORGIVE'N FORGET (12-0) beat Very Promising (12-0) 6l in this race last year (3m, £49850, soft, Feb 14, 9 ran) with BARROW LINE (12-0) ¾l 3rd, ROYAL BOND (12-0) in contention when running out at the 9th and BOLD AGENT (12-0) jumped moderately and pulled up before 2 out.

Latest FORGIVE'N FORGET (11-10) would have finished 2nd, but for falling at the last, to Nupsala (11-10) in the King George VI Chase at Kempton (3m, £31400, good, Dec 26, 9 ran).

ROYAL BOND (11-10) was 4l 3rd to Excursion (11-10) at Punchestown on penultimate start (2m 4f, £12550, good, Dec 12, 7 ran) with BARROW LINE (12-0) 8l 4th and BRUGES (10-13) 8l 5th.

PLAYSCHOOL (10-11) ridden out to win by 1l from Rhyme'N'Reason (10-0) in the Welsh Grand National at Chepstow (3m 6f, £21091, soft, Dec 28, 13 ran).

WEATHER THE STORM (12-0) beat Bobsline (12-0) 8l in the Champion Chase here (2m 4f, £30800, soft, Dec 29, 6 ran) with BRUGES (12-0) 14l 4th and BARROW LINE (12-0) weakening when fell 3 out.

BOLD AGENT (11-4) was 17l 5th to Monanore (11-1) over this course and distance (£11520, soft, Jan 31, 10 ran).

STARQUOGAN, ran in Gowran Park hurdle on Thursday, previously (12-2) was 45¾l last of 6 to Super Fairy (10-13) in Travaore handicap chase (2m 6f, £1035, heavy, Jan 28).

Selection: FORGIVE'N FORGET

New races at Deauville

From Our French Racing Correspondent, Paris

The main August meeting at Deauville is to include two valuable races framed along the lines of the Breeders' Cup and the Goffs' Million. One, a seven-furlong event for two-year-olds to be run on August 19 this year, will be worth £200,000 to the winner. The first six home are guaranteed at least £10,000.

The other, with a similar prize-money arrangement, is for three-year-old colts and fillies over 10 furlongs and will be introduced in next year. Both races are to carry listed status and will be open only to horses sold through Agence Francaise and nominated for entry at the time of sale.

English raiders managed only two minor honours at Cagnes-sur-Mer yesterday. Kheta King (Paul Cook) was a one-paced third behind Marane in the 12-furlong Prix Robert de Villeneuve Bargemon, a placing repeated by Gaelic Fog in the Prix Joseph Collignon.

William Hastings-Bass, the trainer of Kheta King, may have better luck tomorrow in the £5,000 Prix de Bastia (12f), for which he saddles Mr Pintips.

TENNIS

Heston begin defence

Heston Fiat, strengthened by the addition to their squad of the American, Mike DePalmer, begin their defence of the Mortgage Corporation League team championship today with a home match against Woking Computerland (David Powell writes). Heston were the inaugural winners last year and the league enters its second season with its organizers confident that it will help improve the standard of play in Britain.

The Heston team also includes the British Davis Cup player, Stephen Shaw, and the former No. 1, John Lloyd. DePalmer is making his league debut, as are four players who have had big moments at Wimbledon — Peter McNamara (Bournemouth Yamaha Aces), twice doubles champion, Vijay Amritraj (Chiswick Volvic), twice a quarter-finalist, Chris Lewis (Woking Computerland), finalist in 1983, and Peter Doohan (Cardiff Elmatic), who beat Boris Becker last year.

GROUPS

GROUP A: Birmingham Mercury Communications, Middlesbrough Visqueen, Manchester Matchpoint, Telford Anochrome.
GROUP B: Heston Fiat, Bournemouth Yamaha Aces, Peterborough Royal Heritage, Woking Computerland.
GROUP C: Brentwood Motor-Plan, Cardiff Elmatic, Croydon Direct Liners, Chiswick Volvic.

TEAMS

BIRMINGHAM: M Christensen (Den), A Castle, M Cox, J Southcombe, P King.
BOURNEMOUTH: P McNamara (Aus), J Turner, L Matthews, C Wilkinson, R Booth.
BRENTWOOD: L Warder (Aus), D Felgate, M Guntrip, M Petchey, A Rouse.
CARDIFF: P Doohan (Aus), C Fancutt (Aus), M Walker, L Alfred, S Jones, D Roberts.
CHISWICK: V Amritraj (India), C Bailey, D Sapsford, D Ison, A Jarrett.
CROYDON: D Cahill (Aus), J Bates, C' Mottram, R Drysdale, S Cole.
HESTON: M DePalmer (US), S Shaw, J Lloyd, N Boom, D Watt.
MANCHESTER: M Kratzmann (Aus), N Fulwood, C Bradman, S Ickringill, S Heron.
PETERBOROUGH: A Mayer (US), S Botfield, M Blincow, D Kirk, B Knapp, H McGuinness.
TELFORD: M Anger (US), S Giammalva (US), S Bale, J Smith, J Paish, P Gand.
WOKING: C Lewis (NZ), R Whichello, C Dowdeswell, J Dier, M Appleton, P Hughesman.

FIXTURES

TODAY: Birmingham v Manchester (2.30), Telford v Middlesbrough (6.0); Bournemouth v Peterborough (4.0), Heston v Woking (6.0); Cardiff v Chiswick (4.0), Croydon v Brentwood (4.0).
TOMORROW: Middlesbrough v Birmingham (6.0), Telford v Manchester (2.30); Bournemouth v Heston (2.30), Peterborough v Woking (2.30); Cardiff v Brentwood (2.30), Chiswick v Croydon (2.30).

Amritraj ponders a new career

By Richard Evans

Vijay Amritraj embarks on yet another role just a few days after he nearly brought down the curtain on the one that has given him most satisfaction — that of Indian Davis Cup captain.

While he adapts to his new surroundings at the Riverside Tennis Club where he will be representing Chiswick, who play away to Cardiff today in the Mortgage Corporation League. For the next three weeks, Amritraj will have time to consider the possibility of a future without tennis.

"I will miss it like crazy when I stop, I know that," Amritraj said as he tried to recover from the disappointment of losing the fifth and deciding rubber against Slobodan Zivojinovic when India played Yugoslavia in Delhi last weekend. "But at 34 it gets harder all the time and if I could find just one person within our circle here who thought it would be a good thing for me to step down, I would."

But no one is going to tell the middle son of this amazing Madras family that it is time to go. Last year's triumph when Amritraj's play as much as his astute captaincy took India all the way to the Davis Cup final, only enhanced the feeling that no matter what his religion (the Amritrajes are Catholic) Vijay's karma was blessed by every god in the land and if he has not been elevated to the deity, he is certainly treated in a manner no maharajah would sneeze at.

Considering the controversy that blew up over Dilip Vengsarkar's six-month suspension and the general topic of whether cricketers should be allowed to write articles during a Test series, it was fascinating to take note of precisely who was being ushered into Amritraj's palatial suite at the Maurya Sheraton to talk newspaper business. One afternoon two



Amritraj: new surroundings

familiar faces made their way upstairs, but at different times, because the ever-diplomatic Amritraj felt it better that Sunil Gavaskar and Kapil Dev did not actually meet on his doorstep.

"I am sure the problems that exist between them have been exaggerated," Amritraj said. "But, just to be safe, I thought it best to fix their appointments a couple of hours apart!"

Amritraj wants to concentrate on his acting this year but India now faces a relegation battle with Israel which is posing as yet unsolved political problems. Having personally persuaded Prime Minister Gandhi to allow Israel to play in New Delhi last year, Vijay is loath to bother the Prime Minister again with requests for permission to visit Tel Aviv, particularly in the present political climate with India forcefully backing the Palestinian cause. Yet if India default the match, last year's finalists may find themselves banned from the competition for three years. And that, as Vijay says, would be the worst possible way to end a 19-year-old Davis Cup career.

Castle conquers again

Andrew Castle won the LTA indoor satellite series at the Matchpoint Centre, Bramhall, Sheffield, for the second week running yesterday when he defeated Bruce Man-Son-Hing, of the United States, 6-3, 6-1, serving 12 aces in the process.

Castle, aged 24, from Taunton, who plays in the Mortgage Corporation national league at Middlesbrough tomorrow, has received a wild card into the third week of the satellite tournament, which begins at Telford on Monday.

RESULTS: Singles: A Castle (Som) bt B Man-Son-Haing (US), 6-3, 6-1. Doubles: D Felgate (Essex) and L Warder (Aus) bt P Doohan (Aus) and M Fancutt (Aus), 7-5, 7-5.

HOCKEY

Thomas covers for Kerly

By Sydney Friskin

David Thomas, the Welsh international, takes over the leadership of the Southgate attack in place of Sean Kerly for today's Pizza Express Premier Division London League match against Guildford at Cranleigh School.

Kerly and five other Southgate players — Batchelor, Shaw, Clift, Dodds and Duthie — are all with the Great Britain squad training in Cardiff, but Southgate still hope to beat Guildford with a forward line consisting of Moulton, Clark, Thomas, Western and Welch. The odd man out here is Clark, usually a half back. Guildford, though they lost 2-0 in midweek to Oxford University, have selected a strong squad led by Cairns and are capable of making Southgate work hard for their rewards.

Surbiton, the team of the month for January, are playing **Richmond** in a Surrey Cup quarter-final at Wellington College. They also meet the **Royal Air Force** in their annual match at Bisham Abbey tomorrow. For both games, **Surbiton**, with be without *Masterton*, their centre half, who is not available, and there is some doubt about the fitness of Francis, who has scored 19 goals this season from short corners. But Jolly and Hunnisett, both of whom play for the Army, are available.

Stourport, leaders of the first division in the Wilson League, will have to do without *Imran* Sherwani, their main scorer (he is also at Cardiff), for today's match against **Khalsa** but still ought to win.

East Grinstead, who have slipped to third place in the premier division of the McEwan's Lager South League, will face **Amersham** without Ian Taylor in goal and Richard Leman, since both are at Cardiff. **Indian Gymkhana**, the champions, meet **Oxford Hawks** today without their Great Britain forward, Kulbri Bhaura, while **Havant**, the league leaders, must face **Winchester** without Faulkner.

Brean, leaders of Sun Life West League premier division are at home to **Plymouth, Isca**, the champions, a point behind with a game in hand, entertain **Cheltenham**.

BOWLS

Welsh are first to beat favourites

From David Rhys Jones, Auckland

The Auckland Cicadas chirruped like a Welsh male voice choir when David Vowles, Alun and Will Thomas and Jim Morgan became the first team to beat the New Zealand four in the BNZ (Bank of New Zealand) world championship yesterday, but their chorus was more than matched by the raucous cheers of the partisan supporters

While experts were agonizing over whether Scotland, Ireland or England in section A would qualify to meet New Zealand in today's final, the unfancied Welsh combination have steadily won all but one of their games in section B, including this latest 21-11 trouncing of the host country, and have only to beat Papua New Guinea this morning to challenge for the gold medal this afternoon.

England seemed assured of a crack at the bronze medal, as they will surely finish second in section A to the winners of this morning's clash between Scotland and Ireland.

In the singles, David Bryant, from Clevedon, made sure of his section A place in the final

RESULTS: Singles: Section A: Ninth round: P Bellisi (NZ) bt T Tuitolvosa (W Samoa), 25-8; D Bryant (Eng) bt G Souza (HK), 25-17; M Stewart (PNG) bt A Taylor (Zam), 25-7; P Jeans (Mal) bt G Beare (Zim), 25-15; S Espie (Ire) bt J Ueyama (Jap), 25-1; N McInnes (US) bt D Le Marquand (Jersey), 25-17. Tenth round: Bellisi bt Ueyama, 25-2; Bryant bt Le Marquand, 25-18; Taylor bt Jeans, 25-19; Beare bt Tuitolvosa, 25-11; Stewart bt Espie, 25-9; Souza bt McInnes, 25-24. Leading positions: 1, Bryant, 20pts: =2, Souza, Espie, 16; 4, Beare, 14; 5, Bellisi 12. Section B: Ninth round: W Wood (Scot) bt B Jennings (Ken), 25-10; K Williams (Aus) bt R Elliott (Swaz), 25-10; C Bransky (Isr) bt P Fong (Fiji), 25-19; A Wallace (Can) bt M Nicolle (Guernsey), 25-3; M David (Bots) bt J Riveros (Arg), 25-23; R Weale (Wal), bye. Tenth round: Williams bt Wood, 25-18; Wallace bt Bransky, 25-20; Weale bt Nicolle, 25-22; Fong bt David, 25-16; Elliott bt Riveros, 25-15; Jennings, bye. Leading positions: 1, Williams, 18; 2, Wood 16; =3, Bransky, Wallace, 14; 5, Weale, 12. Fours: Section A: Ninth round: England bt Guernsey, 28-21; Scotland bt Western Samoa, 23-19; Ireland bt Canada, 29-10; Botswana bt Jersey, 25-17; Zambia bt Argentina, 26-8; Israel bt Japan, 40-3; Tenth round: England bt Israel, 29-16; Scotland bt Botswana, 18-14; Ireland bt Japan, 31-9; Zambia bt Jersey, 25-15; Canada bt Western Samoa, 20-11; Guernsey bt Argentina, 33-11. Leading positions: 1, Ireland, 19pts; 2, Scotland, 18; 3, England, 17. Section B: Ninth round: New Zealand bt Swaziland, 32-13; Wales bt Hong Kong, 22-15; Australia bt Papua New Guinea, 24-16; Zimbabwe bt United States, 24-23; Fiji drew with Kenya, 23-23; Malawi, bye. Tenth round: Wales bt New Zealand, 21-11; Hong Kong drew with Malawi, 17-17; Australia bt United States, 24-23; Swaziland bt Kenya, 23-21; Fiji bt Papua New Guinea, 21-14; Zimbabwe, bye. Leading positions: =1, New Zealand, Wales, 18pts; 3, Australia, 16.

New ground for Devon

Devon make their first appearance in the semi-finals of the Liberty Trophy when they play Middlesex at Isis, Oxford, today (*Gordon Allan writes*). In the other match, Durham play Lincolnshire at Richardsons, Malton, Yorkshire.

The only changes in the Devon team concern David Cutler's rink, which took a hiding from Julian Haines in the quarter-final against Berkshire. Ron Clarke makes his debut at No. 2 and David Jefferies is recalled as third man.

DEVON: Rink 1: D Elliot, R Clarke, D Jefferies, D Cutler. Rink 2: E Collins, B Lee, L Fisher, R Burch. Rink 3: P Hackett, A Crossman, D Denison, J Evans. Rink 4: R Keating, J Short, I Spreadborough, C Rice. Rink 5: D Bowden, M Osborne, R Johnson, L Bowden. Rink 6: T Haywood, K Tythcott, J Loaring, K Phillips.

FENCING

Llewellyn qualifies

John Llewellyn, the No. 1 épéist from Reading, aged 29, and leading pupil in the masters' diploma course at the Institute Nationale de l'Escrime in Paris, has qualified for Seoul (*a Special Correspondent writes.*)

With Quentin Berriman, Jerry Melville and Mike Corish, the other European-based competitors, Llewellyn returns this weekend for the national épée championship in the De Beaumont centre, west London.

Strong challenges among the entry of 62 come from Ralph Johnson, the holder and veteran of three Olympics; Hugh Kernohan, Mark Rance and Mark Carpenter, the British squad members, and Dominic Mahony, the 1986 épée champion and a modern pentathlon team member.

Hopes high at Newbury

The principal meeting at Newbury today looks set to go ahead but there are doubts concerning at least one of the day's other meetings.

Heavy frost, which claimed the Sedgefield programme yesterday, now threatens Catterick. "The early morning frost has not left the ground and there is a poor forecast," clerk of the course Charles Enderby said. There will be an inspection at 7.30am.

Uttoxeter will go ahead provided there is no further rain. In that event there will be an inspection at 8am.

The meeting at Ayr yesterday survived a snowstorm just before racing but there is no inspection planned for today.

Plumpton will inspect at 10am tomorrow to determine prospects for Monday. The chances of racing are described as "not hopeful". No problems are reported from Nottingham.

Results from two meetings

Newbury

Going: heavy

1.30 (2m 160yd ch) 1, BENDICKS (G Moore, 12-1); 2, Nebilis (R Guest, 5-2); 3, Kescast (P Scudamore, 9-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 3 Master Vince (4th), 14 Bible (6th), 16 Diamond Digger (5th), River Trout, 50 Boreen Geal (pu). 8 ran. 6l, 2½l, 8l, 10l, 5l. A Moore at Brighton. Tote: £14.10; £2.30, £1.30, £1.60. DF: £13.10. CSF: £38.98.

2.0 (2m 4f 120yd hdle) 1, MARSH KING (G McCourt, 16-1); 2, Flingest (A Webb, 8-1); 3, Stanne (G Landau, 25-1); 4, Adelphis Ali (P Scudamore, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 4 fav The Processor, 7 Tsarella (5th), Inherit, 15-2 Scarlet Runner (f), 12 None Too Dear (6th), 14 Aniece, 16 Deep Echo (pu), 20 Gallant Buck, Milford Quay (f), 25 Capa, 33 Contester (pu), Play Boy, Sheer Steel, Windbreaker, 50 Fasnis (pu), Flying Cherub (f), Sabu's Brother. 21 ran. 1l, 1½l, 15l, 5l. J. P Hobbs at Minehead. Tote: £31.10; £3.90, £2.30, £5.30, £3.00. DF: £167.50. CSF: £135.50. Tricast: £2928.78.

2.30 (3m ch) 1, COURSE HUNTER (P Croucher, 3-1); 2, Ronalds Carole (G Powell, 25-1); 3, Pastiliste (G Bradley, 2-1 fav). ALSO RAN: 4 Golden Minstrel (5th), 8 Risk A Bet (6th), Classified (4th), 20 Perhaps Lucky (pu), 7 ran. nk, 12l, 2½l, ½l, 1l. D Murray-Smith at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £3.40; £1.90, £4.50. DF: £40.00. CSF: £48.78.

3.0 (2m 100yd hdle) 1, CHESHAM SQUIRE (R Dunwoody, 9-2); 2, Eskimo Mitts (S Sherwood, 3-1 jt-fav); 3, The Grifter (H Davies, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 3 jt-fav Wood Chisel, 100-30 South Parade (6th), 10 Royal Illusion (6th), 12 Combermere (4th), 16 Dual Capacity (pu), 8 ran. NR: Record Flight. 6l, 4l, 10l, 5l. 12l. D Elsworth at Whitsbury. Tote: £4.90; £1.50, £1.30, £3.40. DF: £8.30. CSF: £17.84.

3.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, MAYANNCOR (Mr G Wragg, 12-1); 2, Selbourne Rambler (Mr P Webber, 5-2); 3, Royal Jet (Mr J Harley, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 7-4 fav Shrewd Operator (4th), 9-2 You're Welcome (f), 20 Roodle Doodle (pu), 33 Cash In Hand (pu), Castaway Lad (pu), Fred Astaire (pu), Hopeful Saint (f). 10 ran. 7l, 20l, not recorded. D Williams at Stourbridge. Tote: £15.10; £2.40, £1.30, £1.70. DF: £13.00. CSF: £38.54.

4.0 (2m 100yd hdle) 1, WATERLOO BOY (R Dunwoody, 8-1); 2, Grogan (R Beggan, 33-1); 3, Epitrez (J White, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 11-4 fav Chatanoogachoochoo (6th), 13-2 King Of The Lo (f), 8 Le Carotte, 10 Ghillie Hills (5th), One More Knight, Out Of Range, 12 Celtic Trust, 16 Mr Gossip, 20 Farm-Lee, Thunderwood. Tuns Hill (4th), Yoohoo Nan (f). 25 Our Alibi (pu), 33 Cool Distraction, Come On Lucky, Lovers Dust, 50 Baracus, Best Smile, Blackdown Mist, Corner Performer, Foxcopse, Highway Parade, Leading Seaman, Samcal. 27 ran. ½l, 1¼l, ¾l, 1½l, 2l. D Nicholson at Stow-on-the-Wold. Tote: £7.90; £2.70, £33.30, £6.50. DF: £183.10. CSF: £253.52.

Jackpot: not won. Pool of £32,889.80 carried forward to Newbury today. Placepot: £526.30

Ayr

Going: heavy

1.45 (2m hdle) 1, PENDLEY GOLD (P Harte, 7-2 fav); 2, The Yeoper (S Mason, 7-1); 3, Echo Beach (D Crossman, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 6 River Blues (6th), 9 Casual Pass, 10 Greenhill's Girl, 12 Donnas Darling, 14 To-Palliken-mou, Starlight Rocky (4th), 20 Ringmore, Major Rouge, Brianvest (5th), 33 Uptown (pu), Victory Boy, The Fink Sisters. 15 ran. NR: Special Settlement. 1l, 4l, nk, nk, 4l. M Naughton at Richmond. Tote: £3.80; £1.90, £1.20, £3.80. DF: £6.60. CSF: £26.24. Tricast: £201.07.

2.15 (2m ch) 1, HIGH DEBATE (M Hill, 5-2); 2, Brownhill Lass (G Harker, 2-1 fav); 3, Sealell (C Grant, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Dancing Admiral (pu), 14 Millstreak (pu), Rhymaround (4th), Wayside (pu), 20 Impertain (pu), 50 Hadrian's Hytech (pu). 9 ran. 2l, dist. 15l. J Jefferson at Malton. Tote: £5.90; £1.50, £1.10. DF: £3.40. CSF: £7.70. Tricast: £50.76.

2.45 (2m hdle) 1, IZADYAR (M Hammond, 2-1); 2, Boy Painter (G Lyons, 5-4 fav); 3, The Ransoch (B Storey, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Pensioner Peach (5th), 7 Tynwald Field (4th), 50 Noel Hill (pu), 100 Greenhill Henry (6th). 7 ran. 7l, 20l, 2½l, 7l, 15l. G Moore at Middleham. Tote: £2.90; £1.20, £1.10. DF: £2.20. CSF: £4.60.

3.15 (3m 110yd ch) 1, FOUR TRIX (P Tuck, 11-10 fav); 2, Polar Nomad (C Grant, 3-1); 3, Goodfellow's Folly (B Storey, 9-1). ALSO RAN: 8 Jay Double You (pu), 25 Running Shot (pu). 5 ran. NR: Last Enemy. ¾l, ½l. G Richards at Greystoke. Tote: £2.20; £1.30, £1.60. DF: £2.70. CSF: £4.70.

3.45 (2m 4f hdle) 1, GRANNY'S BAY (N Doughty, 9-1); 2, Lord Sun (K Teelan, 8-1); 3, Crested (M Hammond, 2-1 fav). ALSO RAN: 5 Stormar (pu), B Crash Market, 9 Hitchenstown (pu), 11 Lyn Ran, 14 Hubbards Lodge (pu), Paddy O'Malley (pu), The Shuffler (4th), 20 Red Breeze (pu), Red Rescue, 25 Glenlyon (pu), Quickest (5th), Cool Rebel (pu), 33 Habet's Melody, Lothian Imperor (pu), Royetzky (6th), Sheshoons Last (pu), The Bunco Man (pu). 20 ran. NR: Lightfall. 2½l, 10l, dist, 4l, 15l. D McCain at Southport. Tote: £10.70; £2.50, £2.70, £1.40. DF: £36.70. CSF: £87.69.

4.15 (2m 4f hdle) 1, TRICKSHOT (M Hammond, 14-1); 2, Bushido (M Bowley, 10-1); 3, Band Walk (B Storey, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 2 fav Norton Warrior (4th), 9-2 Tomorrow Night (pu), 7 Lackzar (pu), Christmas Holly (pu), 20 Son of Ivor (pu), Poona Express (5th). 9 ran. 7l, 10l, 2l, dist. C Tinkler at Malton. Tote: £14.00; £3.50, £1.10, £2.80. DF: £147.30. CSF: £127.84. Tricast: £720.17.

Placepot: £72.20

● Sedgefield abandoned — frost

Forgive'N
poised to
Leopardstown

صكرا عن الاصل

RACING: JENKINS' TALENTED NOVICE CAN UNDERLINE CHAMPION POTENTIAL IN TOTE GOLD TROPHY

Away We Go to justify reputation

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

This year's Tote Gold Trophy took a significant twist yesterday when Toby Balding decided to run the top-weight Beech Road just three days after he finished only sixth at Ascot, beaten a total of 37 lengths. Had he not stood his ground at Newbury today, Away We Go would in all probability have dropped out too.

Also, if Beech Road had missed the race it would have meant the weights going up by 10lb overnight, increasing greatly the tasks of those in the top half of the handicap while improving the lot of those nearer the foot. As it stands, all those below *Lashkafdai* must now carry more than if the handicap were extended to reveal their true rating.

Of the best backed runners, that affects Tancred Sand considerably and, to a lesser extent, Brunico. Had the weights risen I would have fancied Tancred Sand enormously carrying only 10st 4lb, because it would have meant him meeting Fredcoteri on only 3lb worse terms than when he thrashed him by 10 lengths at Newcastle in November. Now he is 9lb worse off.

He should still go well because Fredcoteri has franked the form by winning at Ayr and Kempton, but I think the way is clear for Away We Go to underline his Champion Hurdle claim by becoming only the fourth horse in the 26-year history of the race to win carrying 11st or more.

Highly rated by both his trainer John Jenkins and jockey Simon Sherwood, Away We Go won three races in a row before uncharacteristically making such a bad mistake at Doncaster 15 days ago that Steve Smith Eccles, his partner on that occasion, had no chance of staying aboard.

High Knowl does not appeal to me as a good bet but I do expect the two mares, Mrs Muck and Buck Up, to perform well. Mrs Muck was runner-up in the race 12 months ago and will get mud she loves. Buck Up has been laid out for this race by one of the shrewdest men in the game, Peter Easterby, who saddled the first and second in 1979.

If Away We Go lives up to my expectations, Southernair should then give his trainer double cause for celebration by winning the Chaddleworth Novices' Chase. At Sandown last Saturday he finished a long way ahead of Frenchmans Fancy when second to the useful Yeoman Broker.

Nicky Henderson could be another to come away with two prizes with First Bout (1.30) and The Ram (4.10). I have never known the champion trainer more confident than he was 15 days ago that First Bout would make a triumphant start to his season by winning at Doncaster.

Imagine his crestfallen look when horse and jockey parted



Simon Sherwood: holds high opinion of Away We Go

company, especially as they were going conspicuously well at the time. Having gone nap on First Bout then I feel bound to give him another chance and do likewise in the Harwell Handicap Chase.

Stable companion The Ram, who won three times on the Flat in Ireland last summer, is just preferred to another newcomer, Shimshek, for the Minors' Novices' Hurdle.

Earlier, the clash between Pearlyman and Very Promising in the Game Spirit Handicap Chase should have us all on the edge of our seats. At Cheltenham last March only a neck separated them in the Queen Mother Champion Chase, so on 8lb better terms Very Promising should take his revenge, especially since he beat his old rival on identical terms at Devon in October.

Golden Friend can win the Compton Chase for a second time by beating Western Sunset and The Tsarevich, who will be having his first race since he finished second in last year's Grand National.

As The Thinker, who won last year's Cheltenham Gold Cup, has clearly told his trainer Arthur Stephenson he is not yet ready to make a belated seasonal debut in the Elk Handicap Chase at Ayr, the focal point of interest there will be the presence of Mick's Star, prominent in the ante-post betting on this year's National.

Last time out at Newcastle he had the Pintail Chase sewn up when he completely misjudged the last fence and gave Phil Tuck no chance of staying in the saddle.

That left Hardy Lad with the race at his mercy, and as he won again a fortnight later, the form looks gilt-edged. I expect Mick's Star to beat Earls Brig at a difference of 17lb.

● Santopadre, one of three runners from Rod Simpson's stable in today's Gold Trophy, was sold yesterday morning by Terry Ramsden. Immediately after the race Santopadre will join Presteigne-based trainer Richard Lee, in whose colours the gelding will run tomorrow. Lee's stable jockey Bruce Dowling will ride Santopadre, and Dean Gallagher switches to Ramsden's strongly-fancied Brunico.

Bronze Head is improving

Bronze Head, successful in four of his five races last season, is a late developer and just gets the vote in a tricky race for the Hugh Barclay Memorial Cup at Ayr today (Brian Beel writes).

Five of the runners won first time out last season and two, Flying Ace and Cool Brew are course winners. Of this pair Flying Ace is obviously preferred but whether at 12 years he can beat either Bronze Head or Brunton Park is problematical.

It is some time since Sam Wrekin has shown worthwhile form so it may be safer to bypass him in preference of the established hunters.

Scudamore referred to Jockey Club

Peter Scudamore and Bruce Dowling must face a Jockey Club inquiry in London after the pair were involved in a barging match with their elbows during the last race at Newbury yesterday.

The incident occurred approaching the cross flight five from home in the 27-runner February Novices' Hurdle.

Scudamore was on Ghillie Hills and Dowling was aboard King Of The Lot. Both were on the inside, battling for the same piece of ground on the run up to the flight.

The video patrol clearly showed the two jockeys coming into bodily contact with their arms, and the horses became so unbalanced they were in danger of being unseated.

Indeed, King of the Lot, going left and right after all the pushing and tugging, fell at the hurdle. Scudamore went on to finish fifth. After a lengthy enquiry, Stewards' secretary Jeremy Kerr said: "We have not apportioned blame, but due to the serious nature of the incident, we are referring the matter to the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee."

Scudamore said: "I admit it looks very bad on the video. I had been on the inside all the way, but Bruce then came up my inside and it was either him or me. When I see trouble coming in a race, I cannot pull over and say 'you go first'".

POINT-TO-POINT

Aqua Verde will relish conditions

By Brian Beel

Although frost caused the abandonment of Sedgefield yesterday and snow threatened at Ayr, there were no problems at Corbridge, halfway between them. Nor are difficulties envisaged at today's three other meetings.

Huge entries have caused the division of races at all point-to-points and there are now eight races on the card at each.

Thirty-one different hunts are represented at the East Cornwall where the principal event is the RMC Ladies' qualifier, which will be run in two divisions. Venetia Williams could take the first on the mud-loving Aqua Verde while Katesville, having his first run in the west country, could go well in division two.

Philip Scholfield has been booked to ride six horses, the best of which looks to be Golden Hornet in the open. The current champion Mike Felton hopes to get off the mark here and of his three probable rides, Just Dai, Kindeace and Mischevious Monk, I prefer the last named.

At the Cambridgeshire Harriers, where a total of 242 entries have been received, further divisions may be necessary after declarations have been made. Carl's Choice, who won the restricted race at this meeting last year, improved so much during the season that he is now my selection for division two of the open Golden Casino could beat last week's Easton winner.

● Results from today's four meetings in *The Times* on Monday

NEWBURY

Selections
By Mandarin

1.30 FIRST BOUT (nap).
2.00 Very Promising.
2.40 Away We Go.

3.10 Golden Friend.
3.40 Southernair.
4.10 The Ram.

By Michael Seely
2.0 Very Promising. 2.40 FREDCOTERI (nap).
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.40 SOUTHERNAIR.

Going: heavy

1.30 HARWELL HANDICAP CHASE (£2,960: 2m 4f) (6 runners) BBC 1

103 0-33132 CLARA MOUNTAIN 44 (D,G,S) (S Sairsbury) T Forster 9-11-10 ..... N Davies 98
104 202-221 WILY YEOMAN 63 (CD,F,S) (Mrs H Alwen) J Gifford 9-11-9 ..... R Rowe 92
105 11233-U *FIRST BOUT 15 (C,BF,G,S) (W Shober) N Henderson 7-11-9* ..... *J Osborne (4)* 96
106 344-1P4 FUDGE DELIGHT 57 (CD,G,S) (M Dorey) O Sherwood 9-11-8 ..... S Sherwood ● 99
107 F4PF-PP GLENRUE 101 (D,F,G,S) (Colonville Group) T Casey 11-11-6 ..... R Dunwoody —
109 319222 SMART TAR 23 (CD,F,S) (Mrs E Courage) M Wildinson 7-10-13 ..... P Croucher 98

BETTING: 11-4 Clara Mountain, 3-1 Smart Tar, 4-1 First Bout, 5-1 Wily Yeoman, 6-1 Fudge Delight, 10-1 Glenrue.

1987: FUDGE DELIGHT 8-10-1 S Sherwood (12-1) O Sherwood 10 ran

FORM CLARA MOUNTAIN (11-3) *3l 2nd* to The Argonaut (10-12) at Cheltenham (2m 4f, £4433, good to soft, Dec 31, 6 ran).
WILY YEOMAN (11-0) made all to beat Wollow Will (10-5) 3l at Lingfield (2m 4f, £2582, good to soft, Dec 12, 6 ran).
FIRST BOUT latest lost his rider at 10th in race won by Villiersfown, earlier (11-7) seen to best advantage when *2¾l 3rd to Gala's Image (11-8) at Cheltenham* (2m, £21985, good, *Mar 17, 19 ran*) with SMART TAR (11-7) a 7th fence faller.
FUDGE DELIGHT (11-10) best effort this season when beating Mayennecor (10-2) 6l at Wincanton (3m 1f, £4185, good, Oct 29, 8 ran).
SMART TAR (11-9) 8l 2nd to Flarey Sark (11-2) at Lingfield (2m 4f, £2435, heavy, Jan 21, 8 ran).

Selection: SMART TAR

2.0 GAME SPIRIT CHASE (Limited Handicap: £7,011: 2m 160yd) (5 runners) BBC 1

201 1F-2131 PEARLYMAN 47 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs P Shaw) J Edwards 9-12-0 ..... T Morgan ● 99
202 22-1013 VERY PROMISING 46 (CD,F,G,S) (P Green) D Nicholson 10-11-6 ..... R Dunwoody 96
206 11-2USF DOUBLETON 22 (B,F,G,S) (A Ford) C Popham 7-10-7 ..... B Powell 76
207 231PFP- *DUNDALK BELLS 298 (G,S) (Mrs P Morton) T Morton 6-10-7* ..... *H Davies* —
208 34313U KNOCKBRACK 22 (F,G,S) (G Holmes) G Ham 8-10-7 ..... S McNeill 51

BETTING: 5-6 Pearlyman, 5-4 Very Promising, 10-1 Doubleton, 33-1 Dundalk Bells, 40-1 Knockbrack.

1987: PEARLYMAN 8-11-7 P Scudamore (3-1 js-fav) J Edwards 6 ran

FORM VERY PROMISING (12-0) way below form when 14l 3rd to Weather The Storm (12-0) at Leopardstown (2m 4f, £30800, soft, Dec 29, 6 ran).
On seasonal debut VERY PROMISING (11-0) beat PEARLYMAN (11-8) 2½l at Devon (2m 1f, £5517, good to soft, Oct 30, 7 ran).
PEARLYMAN (12-7), latest start, beat Little Bay (10-11) 5l at Wetherby (2m 50yd, £9440, soft, Dec 28, 5 ran).
DUNDALK BELLS (11-7) pulled up behind Tickits Boo (12-0) at Fairyhouse (2m 3f, £13400, good, Apr 21, 14 ran) and KNOCKBRACK (11-7) unseated three out.
KNOCKBRACK (10-1) best judged on 6l defeat of Akram (11-1) at Wincanton (2m, £2075, good to soft, Dec 26, 6 ran) with DOUBLETON (11-12) 16l behind in 3rd.

Selection: VERY PROMISING

2.40 TOTE GOLD TROPHY HANDICAP HURDLE (Listed race: £32,200: 2m 100yd) (19 runners) BBC 1

301 102030 BEECH ROAD 3 (C,G,S) (T Geake) G Balding 6-11-10 ..... A Charlton 85
302 2-111U AWAY WE GO 15 (BF,G,S) (J Payne) J Jenkins 8-11-1 ..... S Sherwood 80
303 21-3260 HIGH KNOWL 43 (S) (N Wellington) M Pipe 5-11-0 ..... P Scudamore 97
304 P33-222 GAYE BRIEF 44 (F,G,S) (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) Mrs M Rimell 11-11-0 ..... D Browne ● 99
306 2F0002 MRS MUCK 14 (G,S) (N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 7-10-12 ..... Peter Hobbs 94
307 110-000 PROTECTION 21 (G) (H Joel) A Turnell 6-10-10 ..... S Knight 90
309 2-0F4P4 SANTOPADRE 53 (G,S) (R Lee) R Simpson 8-10-4 ..... B Dowling 96
310 2F12-60 BUCK UP 29 (G,S) (Lt-Col R Warden) M H Easterby 6-10-4 ..... L Wyer 90
311 130F21 MUSICAL MYSTERY 37 (S) (D Dunsdon) J Gifford 8-10-3 ..... R Rowe 98
312 0F-3211 FREDCOTERI 21 (G,S) (T Murphy) G Moore 12-10-3 (7ex) ..... M Hammond 97
313 133033 LASHKAFDAL 35 (S) (Mrs B Adkins) R Simpson 5-10-2 ..... I Sheamack (7) 78
315 0/000-61 JAMESMEAD 29 (CD,S) (D Allen) D Elsworth 7-10-0 ..... S Powell 94
316 23/480-2 BRUNICO 21 (G,S) (T Ramsden) R Simpson 6-10-0 ..... D Gallagher 93
317 01400 JAZETAS 21 (B,S) (G Cooke) N Callaghan 5-10-0 ..... D Murphy 90
318 110334 MAN O'MAGIC 28 (B,F,G,S) (J Grag) K Bailey 7-10-0 ..... P Croucher 90
319 01-4430 CASHEW KING 47 (F,S) (P Moss) B McMahon 5-10-0 ..... T Wall 88
320 4112-1F TANCRED SAND 70 (BF,G,S) (J Coxon) J Jefferson 5-10-0 ..... M Hill 92
321 230040 DETROIT SAM 29 (F) (Miss A Whitfield) M Francis 7-10-0 ..... S McNeill 80
322 410/00-0 MUSIC WONDER 16 (S) (E Carnell) R Hodges 7-10-0 ..... W Irvine (7) —

BETTING: 5-1 High Knowl, 6-1 Buck Up, 7-1 Away We Go, 15-2 Brunico, 9-1 Fredcoteri, Tancred Sand, 10-1 Gaye Brief, Mrs Muck, 14-1 Jamesmead, Musical Mystery, 16-1 Beech Road, Protection, 20-1 others.

1987: NEBLIN 8-10-0 S Moore (10-1) G Balding 21 ran

FORM BEECH ROAD (11-8) 6th beaten 37l by Mss Nero (11-3) at Ascot (3m, £5,217, heavy, Feb 10, 11 ran).
AWAY WE GO tastiest lost his rider at the 3rd in a consest won by Drumlan Hill, earlier (11-11) best Deep Moment (11-7) 3l at Sandown on penultimate start (2m, £6838, soft, Jan 9, 11 ran) with LASHKAFDAL (11-11) 8l 4th.
HIGH KNOWL (11-3) 5l 2nd to Celtic Chief (11-0) over course and distance (£3798, good, Oct 23, 7 ran).
GAYE BRIEF (11-0) 4l 2nd to Swingit Gunner (11-0) at Cheltenham last time (2m 4f, £2882, good to soft, Dec 31, 5 ran) won JAMESMEAD (11-6) 29l 5th.
MRS MUCK (11-9), last year's runner up, 20l 2nd to Cloughaney (12-0) at Cheltenham (2m 4f, £3928, heavy, Jan 30, 11 ran) with BEECH ROAD (11-10) 5l 3rd.
MUSICAL MYSTERY (11-12) claimer ridden for a 12l Lingfield win over Tribal Drum (10-0) last time (2m, £1733, heavy, Jan 7, 7 ran).
FREDCOTERI (11-4) beat BRUNICO (10-12) a length at Kempton (2m, £10564, soft, Jan 23, 11 ran) with JAZETAS (10-8) 5l 5th and PROTECTION (11-10) unplaced.
JAMESMEAD (10-7) best Intuition (10-11) 1½l at Ascot latest start (2m, £3454, heavy, Jan 15, 14 ran) with BUCK UP (10-11) 7l 5th and BEECH ROAD (11-10) 3l 6th PROTECTION (11-3) and DETROIT SAM (10-1) were unplaced.
MAN O'MAGIC (11-10) 5½l 3rd to Tivian (11-0) over course and distance on penultimate start (£4979, heavy, Jan 2, 7 ran) with DETROIT SAM (11-1) 2l 4th and JAZETAS (11-5) a distance back in 5th.
CASHEW KING (10-0) 10l 3rd to Celtic Shot (10-5) at Sandown on penultimate start (2m, £18300, good, Dec 5, 12 ran) with DETROIT SAM (10-0) 7l 6th; SANTOPADRE (10-13) was pulled up.
TANCRED SAND (11-3) latest was in 3rd place and beaten in a contest won by Cliffalda (10-5) at Wetherby (2m, £4188, good to soft, Dec 5, 10 ran).
Earlier TANCRED SAND (10-9) beat FREDCOTERI (11-7) 10l at Newcastle in November (2m 60yd, £3766, soft, 7 ran).

Selection: MUSICAL MYSTERY

AYR

Selections
By Mandarin

1.45 Flying Ace.
2.15 Masnoon.
2.45 Mick's Star.

3.15 Richards Bay.
3.45 Nautical Joke.
4.15 Azusa.

Michael Seely's selection: 2.45 Earls Brig.

Going: heavy

1.45 HUGH BARCLAY MEMORIAL CUP HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,190: 3m 110yd) (8 runners)

1 2/11113- BRONZE HEAD 312 (G,S) (A Bonas) A Bonas 10-12-4 ..... D Kinsella (7) 91
2 2144/12- BRUNTON PARK 283 (F,G,S) (B Munro Wilson) Mrs M Dickinson 10-12-4 B Munro Wilson 95
3 334/142- COOL BREW 269 (CD,S) (R Paisley) R Paisley 10-12-4 ..... Miss D Calder (7) ● 99
4 121112- FLYING ACE 253 (CD,F,S) (A Calder) A Calder 12-12-4 ..... D Mactaggart (7) 80
5 PP00/13- HUMMELMOOR 298 (G) (A Mactaggart) A Mactaggart 11-12-4 ..... Major M Sample (7) —
7 3P3030- BENTOM BOY 299 (F,G,S) (Mrs M Sample) M Sample 13-12-0 ..... — —
10 P043-0U PANEGYRIST 119 (C Alexander) C Alexander 13-12-0 ..... — —
11 3F220/4- SAM WREKIN 407 (G,S) (R Thomson) Miss M Bell 10-12-0 ..... — —

BETTING: 5-2 Brunton Park, 7-2 Bronze Head, 5-1 Bentom Boy, Cool Brew, 6-1 Flying Ace, Sam Wrekin, 10-1 others.

1987: EARLS BRIG 12-11-9 H Hamilton (8-13 fav) W Hamilton 8 ran

2.15 FISHERTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,561: 2m) (5 runners)

2 120231 MASNOON 22 (CD,F,G,S) (J Eyre) *Denys Smith 5-11-10* ..... C Grant 98
3 F0F1FP ATKINSONS 14 (CD,F,S) (Mrs T Metcalfe) G Richards 7-11-4 ..... P Tuck ● 99
4 643024 ALMUSHMMIR 14 (S) (Follondale Ltd) J J O'Neill 6-10-12 ..... T Reed 85
5 2/4201-0 FERVENT HOPE 22 (D,S) (D Lunt) D McCain 6-10-5 ..... N Doughty 97
6 110302 BEAKER 8 (V,CD,S) (G Lowe) M Naughton 8-10-1 ..... P Harte (7) 98
7 322132 PIT PONY 8 (CD,G,S) (Mrs H Beattie) J S Wilson 4-10-0 ..... M Bowlby 92

BETTING: 5-2 Masnoon, 7-2 Fervent Hope, 4-1 Beaker, Pit Pony, 6-1 Almushmir, Atkinsons.

1987: WARWICK SUITE 5-11-0 M Hammond (4-1) M Naughton 7 ran

2.45 ELK CHASE (Limited handicap: £3,642: 3m 110yd) (5 runners)

2 F0/111P- EARLS BRIG 331 (CD,G,S) (W Hamilton) W Hamilton 13-11-10 ..... — 83
5 213-311U MICK'S STAR 28 (G,S) (Lord Belper) M W Easterby 9-10-7 ..... P Tuck ● 99
6 21434P DUTCH LORD 14 (F,S) (D Knights) Denys Smith 7-10-7 ..... C Grant 80
8 312-330 WARDSOFF 89 (B,F,S) (R Thorburn) T Cuthbert 11-10-7 ..... B Storey 51
9 0F-0041 CHEENY'S BRIG 14 (CD,G,S) (A Mactaggart) A Mactaggart 8-10-7 ..... T Reed 68

BETTING: 5-8 Mick's Star, 3-1 Earls Brig, 6-1 Cheeny's Brig, Dutch Lord, 20-1 Wardsoff.

1987: PEATY SANDY 13-10-8 Mr A Dudgeon (3-1) Miss H Hamilton 5 ran

3.15 VULMIDAS TROPHY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,347: 2m) (5 runners)

2 00121-3 KNOCKELLY CASTLE 108 (F,G,S) (Mrs J Magnier) J J O'Neill 8-11-10 ..... T Reed 98
4 2-00321 THE DIVIDER 8 (CD,G,S) (Exors late J Aitken) Mrs T Calder 10-11-6 (6ex) ..... B Storey 80
6 421420P CENTRE ATTRACTION 70 (C,D,F,G,S) (N B Mason Ltd) G Richards 9-10-12 ..... P Tuck ● 99
7 326FU0- ADARE 385 (F,G,S) (D Hodgson) T Donnelly 9-10-0 ..... — 90
8 133312 *RICHARDS BAY 8 (CD,S) (J Ratter) J S Wilson 7-10-0* ..... *M Bowlby* 84

BETTING: 11-10 Knockelly Castle, 11-4 Richards Bay, 3-1 Centre Attraction, 10-1 The Divider, 33-1 Adare.

1987: ALLTEN GLAZED 10-10-0 C Grant (11-4) M Naughton 6 ran

3.45 EBF FESTIVAL TRIAL NOVICES CHASE (£3,603: 3m 110yd) (3 runners)

2 1F4133 NAUTICAL JOKE 15 (D,G,S) (P Piller) W A Stephenson 9-11-11 ..... — ● 99
3 00-1132 HASSLE MONEY 14 (F,G,S) (D (Mrs B McKinney) G Richards 6-11-7 ..... P Tuck 98
4 4/U-P HOME TO ROOST 6 (D Hodgson) T Donnelly 8-11-7 ..... K Doolan —

BETTING: 4-6 Hassle Money, Evens Nautical Joke, 33-1 Home To Roost.

1987: JENNIE PAT 7-11-2 J Hansen (8-1) G W Richards 5 ran

4.15 LADBROKE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,749 2m) (6 runners)

7 30-0243 ARCTIC RYMES 31 (Miss J Eaton) Miss J Eaton 5-11-10 ..... G Lyons (7) 90
9 2000002 CHANCE INA MILLION 868 (D Hodgson) T Donnelly 6-11-7 ..... K Doolan —
10 0/03-232 DOUBTLESS 31 (C Alexander) C Alexander 6-11-7 ..... D Dutton 82
11 000U24 ROSIES SON 8 (V) (M O'Grady) M Naughton 6-11-3 ..... P Harte (7) 82
14 00F-0U3 AZUSA 8 (BF) (T Jeffrey) T Jeffrey 5-10-13 ..... J O'Gorman (7) ● 99
16 000-000 MERCURIUS 56 (Mrs A Robertson) D Robertson 6-10-9 ..... Mrs A Robertson —

BETTING: 11-10 Arctic Rymes, 5-2 Azusa, 4-1 Doubtless, 9-2 Rosies Son, 25-1 Chance Ina Million, 50-1 Mercurius.

1987: LAST GRAIN 5-12-8 T Dun (11-10 fav) J S Wilson 8 ran

Course specialists

TRAINERS

	Winners	Runners	Per cent
M W Easterby	5	8	62.5
A Mactaggart	4	16	25.0
G Richards	36	153	23.5
W A Stephenson	18	105	17.1
J S Wilson	12	100	12.0
Denys Smith	6	68	11.8

JOCKEYS

	Winners	Rides	Per cent
P Tuck	28	90	31.1
N Doughty	17	84	20.2
Mr D Mactaggart	3	17	17.6
D Dutton	3	20	15.0
J O Gorman	3	24	12.5
C Grant	16	132	12.1

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 6-8432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ..... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F-fell. P-pulled up. U-unseated rider B-brought down. S-slipped up. R-refused) Horse's name. Days since last outing. (B-blinkers V-visor. H-hood. E-Eyeshield C-course winner D-distance winner. CD-course and distance winner. BF-beaten favourite in latest race) Going on which horse has won (F-firm, good to firm, hard. G-good. S-soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.10 COMPTON CHASE (Listed race: £5,098. 3m) (5 runners) BBC 1

404 1-2390P AGAINST THE GRAIN 29 (D,G,S) (H Shouler) D Nicholson 7-11-4 ..... R Dunwoody 82
406 021-1R3 GOLDEN FRIEND 49 (CD,F,G,S) (D Meade) Mrs M Rimell 10-11-4 ..... D Browne ● 99
407 6210/02- THE TSAREVICH 315 (F,G,S) (Maj I Straker) N Henderson 12-11-4 ..... J White 93
408 2-341P3 WESTERN SUNSET 30 (C,D,G,S) (S Sainsbury) T Forster 12-11-4 ..... H Davies 95
409 0U-0203 EVENING SONG 26 (G,S) (P Townsley) Mrs P Townsley 9-10-6 ..... Mr P Townsley 82

BETTING: 13-8 Western Sunset, 2-1 Golden Friend, 4-1 The Tsarevich, 5-1 Against The Grain, 25-1 Evening Song

1987: GOLDEN FRIEND 9-11-4 D Browne (4-1) Mrs M Rimell 6 ran

FORM AGAINST THE GRAIN (11-10) best recent effort a 2¾l last of 3 to Foyle Fisherman (11-1) at Sandown (3m 118yd, £4644 good, Dec 5).
GOLDEN FRIEND (11-10) 18l 3rd to Nupsala (11-10) in the King George at Kempton (3m, £31400, good, Dec 26, 9 ran).
THE TSAREVICH, who has the Grand National as his major target again this season, finished (10-5) 5l 2nd to Mason Venture (10-13) in last year's race (4m 4f £64710 good Apr 4, 40 ran).
WESTERN SUNSET (12-0) 10l last of 3 to leading *Gold Cup fancy Cavvies Clown (12-0) at Wincanton* (2m 5f £2704, soft, Jan 14).
EVENING SONG (11-10) 4½l 3rd to Flamenco Dancer (10-9) in a Fontwell amateur event (3m 2f 110yd, £2250, soft, Jan 16, 17 ran).

Selection: GOLDEN FRIEND

3.40 CHADDLEWORTH NOVICES CHASE (£2,622: 2m 4f) (15 runners)

502 210/012 BARGE POLE 57 (G) (Lord Chelsea) T Forster 7-11-10 ..... H Davies 82
503 2P-142P CITY ENTERTAINER 3 (D,S) (A Haddock) Mrs C Postlethwaite 7-11-10 ... NON-RUNNER —
504 021421 EDWARDS VISION 28 (S) (M Hellyer) Mrs M Dickinson 7-11-10 ..... G Bradley 75
505 0-F2F41 HIGHWAY EXPRESS 14 (D,S) (M White) R Hodges 7-11-10 ..... S Earle 71
508 02-3000 AH HELLO 49 (Middleton Aggregates Ltd) J Jenkins 7-11-4 ..... S Sherwood —
509 0P0033 ALDO KING 25 (G) (Mrs V Langford) A Turnell 7-11-4 ..... I Lawrence (7) 66
510 3-242 CHEF BUCKANEER 22 (W Whitbread) Mrs M Rimell 6-11-4 ..... D Browne 84
511 22/200-4 FRENCHMANS FANCY 7 (S) (R Jenks) N Gaselee 7-11-4 ..... P Scudamore —
516 000/ PLUMBERS MATE 896 (Alan P Brewer Ltd) R Dickin 9-11-4 ..... R Bellamy (7) —
518 021422 SOUTHERNAIR 7 (G,S) (S Powell) J Jenkins 8-11-4 ..... S Smith Eccles ● 99
519 3000003/3 STANAUDOBOU 504 (Mrs P Townley) M Wilkinson 7-11-4 ..... P Croucher —
521 42F3F4 SUNBEAM TALBOT 15 (G) (Mrs R Legouod) R Armytage 7 11-4 ..... Mr M Armytage (4) 78
522 0-000U0 PAGE OF GOLD 24 (D) (Brinkworth) D Gandolfo 8-10-13 ..... R Dunwoody 73
523 0P-PP00 ROYS DILEMMA 56 (W Sheedy) W Sheedy 6-10-13 ..... D Barchell (4) —
524 P000-U0 SCALDINO 25 (N Wesselberg) K Wesselberg 9-10-13 ..... T Morgan —

BETTING: 9-4 Southernair 9-2 Barge Pole, Cheer Buckaneer, 5-1 Edwards Vision, Highway Express, 14-1 Frenchman's Fancy, 16-1 Sunbeam Talbot, 20-1 others.

1987: MASTER BOB 7-11-10 S Sherwood (2-1 fav) N Henderson 9 ran

FORM BARGE POLE (11-8) was 2l 2nd to Dad's Gamble (11-8) at Lingfield (2m 4f, £2088, heavy, Dec 18, 12 ran) with SUNBEAM TALBOT (11-2) 6l 3rd.
EDWARDS VISION (12-0) easy winner in Market Rasen amateurs race (2m 5f, £1737, soft, Jan 16, 14 ran), by 12l from Almondbury (12-0).
HIGHWAY EXPRESS (10-0) beat Hassle Money (11-3) a length in a novices handicap at Cheltenham (2m 4f, £5087, Jan 30, 8 ran).
CHEF BUCKANEER (11-4) was 3l 2nd to Bespoke (11-10) at Kempton (2m 4f, £2419, heavy, Jan 22, 8 ran).
SOUTHERNAIR (11-0) not fluent when 1½l 2nd to Yeoman Broker (11-0) in listed race at Sandown (2m 4f 68yd, £7440, heavy, Feb 6, 5 ran) with FRENCHMAN'S FANCY (11-0) a distance 4th.

Selection: SOUTHERNAIR

4.10 MINORS' NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O. £2,348 2m 100yd) (19 runners)

605 1302 SPACIAL 35 (S) (Col J Ward) N Gaselee 11-9 ..... P Scudamore 98
607 ALCATRAZ (T Ramsden) D Ringer 11-4 ..... G McCourt —
615 FAR TOO RICH (Mrs J Seymour) Mrs D Haine 11-4 ..... S Smith Eccles —
618 FLOOD MARK (J Clark) P Butler 11-4 ..... M Farlong —
618 P ISLAND KING 49 (Bristol Thoroughbred R & B Plc) G Balding 11-4 ..... R Guest —
619 IS REG IN (G Passey) Miss E Sneyd 11-4 ..... D Gallagher (4) —
620 330 JOINTE 129 (John Francome Racing & Punters Club Ltd) *J Jenkins 11-4* ..... *S Sherwood* 84
624 8003 NORTHERN BARRY 80 (B) (T Coleman) Mrs M Rimell 11-4 ..... A Stampe 88
626 PRINCE NEWPORT (B) (S Crown) S Christian 11-4 ..... R Beggan —
627 3 ROYAL ASTRONAUT 46 (Mrs R Lambert) R Akehurst 11-4 ..... D McKeown ● 99
628 RUN FOR FREE (R Freethy) A Turnell 11-4 ..... S Knight —
629 SANTELLA GREY (A F Budge Ltd) K Bailey 11-4 ..... P Croucher —
630 SHIMSHEK (K Al-Said) D Elsworth 11-4 ..... C Brown —
631 THE RAM (A Ennever) N Henderson 11-4 ..... J Osborne 84
632 P TIGERS PET 175 (A Wilkinson) K Ivory 11-4 ..... —
634 04 TRIBUTE TO YOUTH 101 (BF) (R Maryan Green) D Nicholson 11-4 ..... R Dunwoody 85
636 40 ZANUSSI LINE 26 (R Gibbons) M Wilkinson 11-4 ..... M Perrett (4) 80
640 0 TANGALOOMA 22 (V Rubin) Mrs M Rimell 10-13 ..... D Browne 87
641 0F WISE TIMES 35 (Adept (80%ld)) D Elsworth 10-13 ..... R Arnott —

BETTING: 11-4 The Ram, 100-30 Shimshek, 4-1 Santella Grey, 13-2 Royal Astronaut, 10-1 Spacial, 12-1 Run For Free, 14-1 Flood Mark, 20-1 Tangalooma, Tribute To Youth, Prince Newport, 25-1 others.

1987: PRAIRIE OYSTER 11-4 S Sherwood (7-2) O Sherwood 21 ran

FORM SPACIAL (11-4) was 10l 2nd to Gilt Bronze (11-0) at Sandown (2m, £2881, soft, Jan 9, 18 ran) with WISE TIMES (10-9) out of contention when fell last.
JOINTE (10-10) jumped moderately when 25½l 8th to Rivers Secret (10-12) at Cheltenham (2m, £2135, good to firm, Oct 7, 18 ran) with NORTHERN BARRY (10-10) behind.
TRIBUTE TO YOUTH (11-0) was 9l 4th to Dual Capacity (11-0) over course and distance (£1587, good, Nov 4, 25 ran) with NORTHERN BARRY (11-0) 3l 8th.
ROYAL ASTRONAUT, despite mistakes (11-0) was 5½l 3rd to Bigmon Reserve (11-0) over course and distance (£2163, heavy, Jan 4, 13 ran) with ZANUSSI LINE (11-0) 15l 4th.
TANGALOOMA (10-5) was 26l 5th to Lyphento (10-7) on debut at Kempton (2m, £1625, heavy, Jan 22, 15 ran).

Selection: ROYAL ASTRONAUT

Course specialists

TRAINERS

	Winners	Runners	Per cent
T Forster	17	70	24.3
M Pipe	4	17	23.5
R Akehurst	4	19	21.1
Mrs M Rimell	8	39	20.5
J Jenkins	12	73	16.4
O Sherwood	8	52	15.4

JOCKEYS

	Winners	Rides	Per cent
Dale McKeown	3	11	27.3
M Perrett	7	31	22.6
S Smith Eccles	14	70	20.0
S Sherwood	15	76	19.7
P Croucher	3	19	15.8
P Scudamore	20	128	15.6

UTTOXETER

Selections
By Mandarin

1.30 Tabareek. 2.0 Nodalotte. 2.30 Broad Beam. 3.0 Pollen Bee. 3.30 K O Island. 4.0 Royal Gossip.

Going: heavy

1.30 SANDON NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £870: 2m) (16 runners)

2 11 TABAREEK 140 (D,F,G) M Pipe 11-3 ..... J Lower
3 *F100 CHANTILLY LACE 14 (D,S) Mrs A Knight 10-11* *G Knight*
4 1230 PANIENKA 35 (D,S) E Owen jun 10-11 D J Burchell (4)
6 BARITONE C Dingwall 10-10 ..... —
11 20 FIR TRADING 28 Miss S Wilton 10-10 ..... S Davies (7)
12 0 GO WEST 45 R Hodges 10-10 ..... P Murphy
14 HIGH CHATEAU J Spearing 10-10 ..... A Webb
21 03 SKY CAT 47 M H Easterby 10-10 ..... R Massey (4)
22 SLEUTH C Holmes 10-10 ..... C Mann
26 COME ON GYSTON F Yardley 10-5 ..... —
27 6010 CRYSTAL REEF 47 (D,G) O Nicholson 10-5 ..... W Humphreys (4)
28 HOTEL LOTTI O O'Neill 10-5 ..... N Bentley
29 4 IRIRI 24 B Cambidge 10-5 ..... Mr J Cambidge
33 0 NEEDWOOD NYMPH 47 B Morgan 10-5 ..... C Prince (7)
34 P SALFORD RAPHAELLA 60 F Yardley 10-5 ..... C Cox
39 THAT'S MOTORING B Preece 10-5 ..... G Landau

5-4 Tabareek, 3-1 Sky Cat, 6-1 Chantilly Lace, 8-1 Needwood Nymph, 10-1 Crystal Reef, 12-1 others.

2.0 FULFORD NOVICES HANDICAP (£2,324: 2m) (16)

1 2U00 ROYAL CRACKER 14 (S) T Bill 7-11-10 ..... N Fearn (4)
4 3013 *NOBLE EYRE 43 (S) D Gandolfo 7-11-4* .....
5 0011 NODALOTTE 16 (D,S) J Spearing 8-11-4 (8ex) P Dever
6 0023

RUGBY UNION: JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL CUP PUTS FOCUS ON WEST COUNTRY

Bath in fear of being kicked out of cup by Hare

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

"There are six West Country clubs in the last 16 of the John Player Special Cup and between them they have provided only one England player this season," a West Country club official grumbled this week. That official will not take any comfort from the fact that Scotland have chosen Cronin, of Bath, in their second row, but at least the West can derive a wry laugh from the ludicrous 3-1 odds which the bookmakers have come up with to make Waterloo cup favourites.

No disrespect to the Lancashire club – which should certainly dismiss one of the West Country sides, Gordon League, from the competition today – but for the bookies to rank them ahead of Bath, the holders, Leicester, Wasps and Bristol indicates how little they know about Rugby Union.

The fourth round will open up the competition in no uncertain way. When the names of the eight surviving clubs are put into the quarter-final draw on Monday, those of last year's finalists, Bath and Wasps, could be missing; and so could those of Leicester and Gloucester, the clubs who, with Coventry, dominated the first decade of the cup.

Let us deal first with what *should* happen: Gordon League and Berry Hill, the Gloucestershire Jacks of the last round, should leave with honour, beaten by Waterloo and Harlequins respectively. Bristol and Moseley, both of the league's first division, should dispose of second-division Richmond and Gosforth.

The other games should be even contests: Plymouth Albion and Saracens are well-matched, as are Coventry and Sale, both first division strugglers. Wasps's more obvious flair is weighed against Gloucester's Kingsholm support. Leicester and Bath should be the tie to end all ties, and could also see the end of Bath's 21-game unbeaten cup run, which goes back to 1982.

Hovering around all these games will be the England selectors, judging where changes may be made in the national side to play Scotland next month and adding impetus where little is needed. They will be out in force at Welford Road, where the attendance for a 3.30 p.m. kick-off may near the 15,000 capacity.

Back in September, Leicester beat Bath 24-13 in the league, without Richards, the influential No. 8. The key to this game may be the line-out, where Bath have a formidable presence in Redman, Cronin, Egerton and Hall, who is seeking to make his way back into England contention. That quartet should ensure quality possession, but we must wait and see how Bath choose to use it, whether with a forward-based game or whether they give Halliday and friends the chance to show their quality.

Jack Rowell, the Bath coach, said: "I'm not forecasting a win – merely saying we are capable of winning there. We have been working on giving away fewer penalties because we can't allow that man anywhere near our goal." That man is Hare, the Leicester full back, who remains supreme in English rugby as a goal- and line-kicker.

Choice decisions

Gloucestershire will get the best referees England can afford today: the three-man international panel all handle cup games in the county, with Fred Howard at Gloucester v Wasps, Roger Quittenton at Gordon League v Waterloo, and Colin High at Berry Hill v Harlequins. It will be the first appearance in the fourth round for both Berry Hill and Gordon League, and only the second for Plymouth Albion.

Wheeler's long-term investment pays off

By Mick Cleary

An awful lot of people were battling to get into Twickenham at 1.50 last Saturday. One man, alone against the berry tide, was battling to get out. Not that it was any reflection on the prospective entertainment. Indeed, as a veteran of 41 international games himself, it was a particular wrench to depart the tingling Twickenham tumult.

But for Peter Wheeler there were more pressing matters to attend to. He had flown into Heathrow that morning following a dinner in Belfast the night before, dropped into a hospitality bash at HQ but was soon off to fulfil obligations elsewhere. A quick flit up the M1 and there he was, at 3.30, at Welford Road, where Leicester were playing London Scottish.

Like his erstwhile England colleague, Roger Uttley, with the national side, Peter Wheeler, aged 39, has also taken to coaching. The club he captained to three successive John Player titles (1979-81) are presently prospering under his tutelage and have been hard at it in preparation for today's Cup clash with the holders, Bath.

Wheeler's doughty experience, hewn from nine years international labour in the front row (a period which included two Lions tours) provides the basis for his coaching strategy. Since retiring two years ago he has had neither the time nor the inclination to plough through reams of coaching drills. His *modus operandi* has been partly inherited from his own mentor at Leicester, Chalkie White, and has partly evolved from his dealings with players to whom he constantly defers. "How can I, a roughneck hooker, tell a Les Cusworth what to do?" he says. "Playing, and therefore coaching, has become so much more specialized that really you need to be very catholic in your approach. At Leicester the overall club coach, Graham Willars, and I have tried to bring in as many experts as possible – Nick Joyce, Alan Foster and David Matthews for example, to help consider all manner of things; maybe the subtleties of middle-of-the-line jumping or perhaps the attacking patterns of wing threequarters.

"As first XV coach I've focused mainly on fitness, which I found has improved dramatically since I stopped playing. The All Blacks lifted it to prodigious levels but we're now narrowing that gap. What I've been appalled by is the decline in basic skills. There are players, even at such a senior club as this, who do not know the fundamentals of a ruck, for instance. It's an alarming prospect but one which we in some ways anticipated when we set up our youth team way back in 1972. They are the second most important side at Leicester because we are so concerned in investing for the future. If that also means, at senior level, fixing someone up with a mortgage or helping them with a job then so be it."

Investment is an area Wheeler knows well, having just set up his own brokerage in Leicester. Running a business, raising four children and plotting the downfall of Bath makes for a hefty schedule, though he thinks he'll only be able to shoulder the load for a couple of years. It is the demands made on his international players, however, which he finds really daunting. "The whole concept of amateurism has to be reappraised," he says. "They're now gathering on Wednesday nights before an international. The RFU expects employers to pay their wages during that absence, refusing to foot the bill itself. It's all money: it's merely a question of semantics as to whether it constitutes professionalism. What's more, the careers of several players have been checked by their involvement with the sport. Rory Underwood, for example, is about two years behind his contemporaries in the RAF because of the time he's committed to rugby. I'm not saying that money is the answer to the increasing pressures but it may be some sort of palliative. The overdraft doesn't go away just because you're getting your head kicked in for your country."

Wheeler has always been something of an iconoclast as regards amateurism, yet he's distinctly traditional about the principles of play in which he believes. "Hard work, co-operation and commitment are still the key concerns," he says, perhaps wistful of the days when his sweat-flecked face with the gumshield-grimace was to the fore in exemplifying those qualities. "As for making decisions, that's up to the players," he says. "A coach merely organizes; he should never annex the players' sense of initiative."



Roughneck no more: Wheeler aiming for coaching success

Tucker boosts Bedford

While the cup occupies pride of place, Courage Clubs Championship business continues elsewhere, with the caveat that the full-time score in Gloucester's cup game with Wasps also count towards a first division place (David Hands writes).

Should Headingley beat Bedford they will move to fourth position in the second division and are bolstered by Irving (centre) and Sellar (hooker).

Tucker, the Zimbabwean international prop, will make his first league appearance for Bedford after serving his qualifying period and the return at lock of Orwin stiffens the Midlands resistance.

Harrison, the England captain, plays his fifth game for Wakefield in their third division match at Metropolitan Police. Liley continues at full back since Adamson is unavailable and Ferry makes his debut for the Police, for whom a win would push them into second place.

Nottingham have their internationals, Rees and Moore, available at Beeston against Pontypridd, while Northard returns to centre.

TODAY'S TEAMS

Moseley v Gosforth
Moseley bring in Arntzen at centre because Exeter has a neck injury. Flowers is fit to prop for Gosforth and Whisker (full back) and Johnson (stand-off) are fit to play.

Plymouth A v Saracens
Livesey and Fairgrieve resume at half back for Plymouth. Ryan is fit to play No. 8 for Saracens, with Adamson moving to lock.

Bristol v Richmond
Doubleday moves to loose-head and Hickey comes in at tight-head prop for Bristol. Breedy continues at stand-off for Richmond, who have Wilford (flanker) and Cooper (lock) in the pack.

Coventry v Sale
Coventry field Graham (centre) and Thomas (flanker). Sale hope Fitton will have recovered from a knee injury to play scrum half but Jee, their multi-purpose back, stands by.

Berry Hill v Harlequins
Berry Hill have both Richards (scrum half) and Boyd (flanker) fit once more though Horobin, their former England Schools flanker, has been suspended. Mullins is fit to prop for Harlequins.

Gloucester v Wasps
Gloucester prefer Cummins to Mogg at centre and retain Etheridge at lock. Wasps play Rose at lock and Pellow on the left wing.

Gordon League v Waterloo
Connor captains Waterloo in the absence of the suspended Syddall and Allott moves to lock. Hackett has a broken arm so Samuels hooks and Taylor plays flanker while Ritchings joins the Gordon League second row.

Leicester v Bath
Burnhill replaces Underwood on the wing for Leicester, whose scrum half, Youngs, has recovered from influenza. Bath play Guscott alongside Halliday with Palmer making up the midfield triangle.

WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

Expectations high for early Swiss success

From Iain Macleod
Calgary

The day and the hour are almost upon us. The psychological war, or the "Olympic mind game", as they call it here, is just about over. Tomorrow, on the fir-lined slopes of Nakiska, immortality beckons for the Olympic downhill champion.

For Martin Bell, of Great Britain, it is the biggest race of his life. Bell's recent rich vein of form suggests that if he can overcome the problem of which skis to use, then he could well achieve Britain's best ever Olympic result.

On the 3,147-metre course, there have been ominous signs this week that raw courage is the ingredient essential in preventing Nakiska from staging its own version of the St Valentine's Day Massacre.

Yet the variables that govern the equation to determine the destiny of the gold medal will be as changeable as the weather. Three days ago, with temperatures at minus-28° F, it seemed that it would be a matter of man versus mountain. Yesterday, as the chinook blew its warm wind in from the Pacific, raising temperatures to 8° C, there was every reason to believe that the service personnel may yet hold the key to victory.

Given that that is so, the Swiss have inevitably performed well in practice runs – Pirmin Zurbriggen headed the first two – and are without question the best organized of all the squads, and will not lack the ability, courage or tecnical knowledge to conquer the toughest Olympic course ever.

Zurbriggen's colleague, Daniel Mahrer, a good technical skier, also did well, and it will be surprising if the first rendition of *Cantique Suisse* will not be heard at the Olympic Plaza tomorrow night. But the most interesting factor to emerge is that Canadian hopes would appear to lie with Felix Belczyk, who has been consistently well placed in training. He headed the third practice run, and his performances are in stark contrast to his more favoured compatriot, Rob Boyd, on whose shoulders the aspirations of the host nation seem to weigh ever more heavily.

Of the rest of the non-Swiss, Markus Wasmeier, of West Germany, and Marc Girardelli, of Luxembourg, are also worthy of consideration.

Zurbriggen, though, must be favourite to take the title that surely would offer confirmation that this gentle mountain man is the world's finest skier. He will, however, have time enough in the next fortnight to make amends for any disappointment incurred here tomorrow.

Zurbriggen's assertion after the first run on Wednesday that "it was an average run", is merely a ploy in the game of Olympic chase. No-one doubts that he is the chief contender for honours.

Experience will be a key factor. Concentration will be vital. So, if there's one man capable of eclipsing Zurbriggen on the big day it could well be his arch rival, the world champion, Peter Müller. He won the dress rehearsal here last season when, admittedly, there was not as much snow. Since then, 70 metres have been added at the top and left Müller complaining bitterly that it is too much like a super giant slalom course and, therefore, too slow.

The sudden change in conditions, however, could still be to Müller's advantage, and though Zurbriggen is hot favourite, the word of Ken Read, the co-course setter, almost a year ago, may yet prove to be prophetic: "The gold medal is now Peter Müller's to lose".

TODAY'S EVENTS

All times GMT
OPENING CEREMONY: McMahon Stadium (8 p.m.)
ICE HOCKEY: Olympic Saddledome: Czechoslovakia v West Germany (9.30 p.m.); Austria v United States (1.30 a.m. Sunday); Stampede Corral: Norway v Soviet Union (11.30 p.m.)

TOMORROW

Sunday, Feb. 14
All times GMT
ICE HOCKEY: Olympic Saddledome: Sweden v France (5.30 p.m.); Poland v Canada (9.30 p.m.); Switzerland v Finland (1.30 a.m. Monday).
ICE SKATING: Stampede Corral: Pairs short programme (1.45 a.m. Monday)
LUGE: Canada Olympic Park: Men's singles, first and second runs (5 p.m.)
NORDIC SKIING: Canmore Nordic Centre: Women's 10km (5 p.m.)
SKI JUMPING: Canada Olympic Park: 70 metres (8.30 p.m.)
SKIING: Nakiska: Men's downhill (8.30 p.m.).
SPEED SKATING: Olympic Oval: Men's 500 metres (12 midnight).
CURLING (demonstration): Max Bell Arena: Round-robin (10 p.m.).

Door kept open for N Koreans

From David Miller
Calgary

The Korean controversy runs and runs. Yu Sun Kim, the North Korean IOC member, said at the conclusion of this week's session that his country still wished to meet South Korea to discuss its possible involvement in the Summer Olympic Games. North Korea is one of only six nations not to have accepted the invitation.

Dr Un Yong Kim, South Korea's IOC member, had stated that the door was still open. In consequence, the North has requested a meeting on February 19 at Panmunjom, the demilitarized border point. But the North's terms are unlikely to be accepted by Seoul.

It has requested a four-point agenda for negotiation between senior political leaders: a reduction in arms spending, in provocative border manoeuvres, in defamatory propaganda and, last, the question of Olympic participation. South Korea has indicated, through Seb Jik Park, president of its organizing committee, that such terms are unacceptable, and a meeting can only take place under the aegis of the IOC.

So the deadlock seems certain to remain, with North Korea's tactics continuing to be political and stalling.

Scottish wisdom behind Thomas

From John Hennessy, Calgary

If it smacks of clutching at straws, Britain can still take a vicarious interest in the gold medal prospects of Debi Thomas in the Olympic women's figure skating. The American champion is trained by Alex McGowan, who reached the United States by the unconventional route of Scotland, Queen's Ice Club in London and Butlin's holiday camp at Pwllheli.

Under his guidance, first in San Francisco and now at Boulder, Colorado, Thomas dispossessed the regal Katarina Witt of the world title in 1986, was in turned dethroned in 1987 and is now aiming to turn the tables yet again on the Olympic champion.

Witt is the popular favourite but McGowan remains convinced that his skater has a realistic hope of the title.

"Katarina did four triples in the European championships, two salchows and two toe loops," he said yesterday. "That won't be good enough here. Even if she throws in the triple loop, which she ducked in Prague, it could still not be enough."

He regards Thomas's formidable combination of two triple toe loops as a winning formula, so far as technique is concerned. Artistically, too, she has benefited from the tutelage of the Russian ballet master, Mikhail Baryshnikov, whom she consulted again in New York last week.

This last visit has borne immediate fruit, for "Debi has changed some movements to make her more sensuous. She has a genuine feeling for the music, not just acting to it, as Katarina seems to do". The music, by delicious chance, is Bizet's *Carmen*, which Witt has also chosen for her free programme. The draw for the compulsory figure has been kind to Thomas, since it calls for a counter turn to start with, which she does well, rather than the rocker, on which she is, well, a little rocky.

McGowan feels the draw for the free skating will be important. If Witt skates first she will have to do the triple loop; otherwise she may be able to dispense with it in the light of what has gone before.

All this presupposes that things go smoothly for both skaters in the first two elements of the competition, but there are some dangerous spoilers about, notably Kira Ivanova and Anna Kondrashova, both of the Soviet Union, Jill Trenary and Caryn Kadavy, both of the United States, and the explosive little Japanese, Midori Ito.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

3.0 unless stated

Barclays League

First division
Arsenal v Luton
Charlton v Wimbledon
Chelsea v Manchester Utd
Coventry v Sheff Wed
Everton v QPR
Newcastle v Norwich
Oxford v Tottenham
Southampton v Notts F
Watford v Liverpool
West Ham v Portsmouth

GM Vauxhall Conference

Barnet v Weymouth
Dagenham v Wycombe
Kettering v Bath
Northwich v Kidderminster
Sutton v Welling

Vauxhall-Opel League

Premier division
Barking v Croydon
Basingstoke v Tooting and M
Bishop's Stortford v St Albans
Carshalton v Hayes
Dulwich v Bromley
Hendon v Farnborough
Slough v Hitchin
Windsor v Leytonstone-Ilf
Yeovil v Bognor

FA TROPHY: Third round: Altrincham v Fisher; Leyton-Wingate v Macclesfield; Lincoln v Maidstone; Runcorn v Barrow; Telford v Stafford; Witton v Enfield.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Bangor v Carrick; Cliftonville v Ards; Coleraine v Crusaders; Distillery v Ballymena; Glentoran v Glentoran; Larne v Portadown; Limfield v Newry.

VAUXHALL OPEL LEAGUE: First division: Basildon v Oxford City; Billericay Town v Lewes; Hampton v Stevenage Borough; Kingsbury Town v Boreham Wood; Leatherhead v Uxbridge; Marlow v Worthing; Southwick v Bracknell Town; Staines Town v Chesham Utd; Walthamstow Avenue v Wolverton Town; Wembley v Walton and Hersham; Woking v Grays Athletic. Second division south: Chalfont St Peter v Metropolitan Police; Dorking v Flackwell Heath; Eastbourne Utd v Egham Town; Epsom and Ewell v Maidenhead Utd; Harefield Utd v Feltham; Hungerford Town v Banstead Athletic; Newbury Town v Chertsey Town; Petersfield Utd v Molesey; Ruislip Manor v Camberley Town; Southall v Whyteleafe; Yeading v Horsham. Second division north: Barton Rovers v Clapton; Berkhamsted Town v Harlow Town; Collier Row v Hemel Hempstead; Finchley v Heybridge Swifts; Haringey Borough v Hertford Town; Hornchurch v Saffron Walden Town; Letchworth Garden City v Tring Town; Royston Town v Aveley; Vauxhall Motors v Witham Town; Ware v Rainham Town; Wivenhoe Town v Tilbury.

Second division
Barnsley v Blackburn
Bradford v Oldham
Huddersfield v Swindon
Hull v Stoke
Ipswich v Plymouth
Leicester v Leeds (2.30)
Manchester City v Bournemouth
Reading v Millwall
Sheffield Utd v Shrewsbury
West Brom v C Palace

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Bangor v Hyde; Buxton v Workington; Caernarfon v Worksop; Gainsborough v Mossley; Marine v Horwich; Matlock v South Liverpool; Morecombe v Rhyl; Oswestry v Gateshead; Southport v Goole. First division: Farsley Celtic v Netherfield; Radcliffe Borough v Alfreton Town; Sutton Town v Curzon Ashton; Sheffield and Hallam.

SUNDAY MIRROR COMBINATION (2.0): Luton v Arsenal; Tottenham v Watford.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnstaple v Radstock; Bristol C v Melksham; Clevedon v Clandown; Dawlish v Mangotsfield; Plymouth Argyle v Chippenham; Saltash v Minehead; Swanage and Herston v Bideford; Taunton v Exmouth; Torrington v Liskeard Athletic; Weston-super-Mare v Bristol Manor Farm.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford v Burton; Aylesbury v VS Rugby; Cambridge C v Alvechurch; Chelmsford v Witney; Dartford v Sheppshed; Dorchester v Nuneaton; Fareham v Corby; Gosport v Worcester; Willenhall v Leicester United. Midland division: Banbury v Rushden; Bridgnorth v Trowbridge; Buckingham v Dudley; Forest Green Rovers v Kings Lynn; Grantham Town v Gloucester C; Mile Oak R v Hednesford; Moor Green v Merthyr Tydfil; Paget Rangers v Coventry Sporting; Stourbridge v Atherstone United; Sutton Coldfield v Bilston; Wellingborough v Halesowen. Southern division: Andover v Hastings; Baldock v Chatham; Canterbury C v Burnham; Dover Athletic v Hounslow; Gravesend and Northfleet v Erith and Belvedere; Poole v Folkestone; Ruislip v Dunstable; Thanet v Corinthian; Tonbridge AFC v Bury; Waterlooville v Sheppey.

ABACUS WELSH LEAGUE: National division: AFC Cardiff v Maesteg Park; Barry Town v Cwmbran; Blaenrhondda v Bridgend; Brecon v Pontllanfraith; Caerleon v Briton Ferry; Haverfordwest v Aberystwyth; Port Talbot v Ebbw Vale; Ton Pentre v Milford; Pembroke v Llanelli.

DRYBROUGHS NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Blyth Spartans v Whitby (3.15); Chester-le-Street v Brandon; Consett v Newcastle Blue Star; Gretna v Ferryhill Athletic; Ryhope CA v Billingham Synthonia; Shildon v Gusborough (3.15); South Bank v Crook (3.15); Tow Law v Easington; Whitley Bay v Bishop Auckland.

Third division
Brighton v Bristol C
Bristol R v Southend
Bury v Northampton
Chester v Wigan
Doncaster v Rotherham
Gillingham v Aldershot
Mansfield v York
Notts Co v Blackpool
Port Vale v Grimsby
Preston v Sunderland
Walsall v Chesterfield

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE (2.30): Premier division: Bridlington v Armthorpe Welfare; Emley v Ossett Albion (3.0); Grimthorpe MW v Harrogate Railway; Guiseley v Pontefract Colts; Hallam v Belper Town; Hatfield Main v Thackley; Long Eaton v Brigg. League Cup Second round replay (2.0): North Ferriby v Rowntree Mackintosh.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Bootle v Atherton LR; Burscough v Warrington Town; Colne Dynamoes v Salford; Colwyn Bay v Darwen; Formby v St Helens; Kirkby v Ditherce; Leyland Motors v Glossop; Prescot Cables v Ellesmere Port and Nesston. Second division: Ashton v Flixton; Atherton Collieries v Padiham; Bacup Borough v Ford Motors; Blackpool Mechanics v Oldham; Chadderton v Nelson; Cheadle v Vauxhall GM; Great Harwood v Whitworth Valley; Maine Road v Wren R; Newcastle v Maghull; Newton v Ashton.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Saloplans v Etonians. First Division: Ardinians v Citizens; Aldenhamians v Bradfieldians; Wellingburians v Lancing; Wykehamists v Harrovians.

FA SENIOR CUP: Denaby United v Frickley Athletic.

Fourth division
Burnley v Darlington
Cardiff v Colchester
Crewe v Newport
Exeter v Wolves
Halifax v Carlisle
Hartlepool v Rochdale
Hereford v Wrexham
Peterborough v Tranmere
Scarborough v Cambridge
Scunthorpe v Leyton O
Torquay v Swansea

GLOUCESTERSHIRE SENIOR CUP: Third round: Thornbury Town v Almondsbury Picksons.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE (11.00): First division: Charlton Athletic v Gillingham; Fulham v Chelsea; Leyton Orient v Ipswich Town; Norwich City v Millwall; Portsmouth v West Ham United; QPR v Arsenal; Tottenham Hotspur v Southend United; Watford v Cambridge United. Second division: Brantford v Tottenham Hotspur; Brighton and Hove Albion v Bristol C; Bristol R v Reading; Luton Town v Swindon; Northampton v Southampton; Wimbledon v Oxford United.

OXFORDSHIRE SENIOR CUP: Third round: Clanfield v Oxford Univ Press; Morris Motors v Kidlington; Thame United v Garsington; Worcester College OB v Bicester.

SKOL PREMIER DIVISION CUP: Second round: Bishop's Cleeve v Rayners Lane; Didcot v Yate; Fairford v Moreton.

SKOL FIRST DIVISION CUP: First round: Kintbury Rangers v Avon Bradford.

SUSSEX SENIOR CUP: Third round: Eastbourne Town v Southwick; Pegham v Midhurst; Three Bridges v Eastbourne United.

Fine Fare Scottish League

Premier division
Dundee v Celtic
Dunfermline v Dundee Utd
Hearts v Aberdeen
Morton v Falkirk
Motherwell v Hibernian
Rangers v St Mirren

First division
Airdrie v Forfar
Clyde v Queen of Sth — P
Clydebank v East Fife
Kilmarnock v Partick
Meadowbank v Hamilton
Raith v Dumbarton

Second division
Alloa v Brechin
Berwick v Ayr
Montrose v Albion
Queen's Park v E Stirling
St Johnstone v Stirling
Stenhousemuir v Arbroath
Stranraer v Cowdenbeath

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CUP
Second Round
Warrington v St Helens (2.15)

SLALOM LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Dudley Hill v Pilkington; Milford v Leigh Miners; Wigan St Patricks v West Hull.

HANDBALL

MIDLANDS CUP (men): Quarter-final: Droitwich Wasps v German Tornados (6.0).

BRITISH LEAGUE (women): Halewood Town Ladies v Manchester United SSS (2.0).

RUGBY UNION

JOHN PLAYER SPECIAL CUP
Fourth round
Berry Hill v Harlequins (2.30)
Bristol v Richmond
Coventry v Sale
Gloucester v Wasps
Gordon L v Waterloo (2.30)
Leicester v Bath (3.30)
Moseley v Gosforth
Plymouth v Saracens (2.45)

COURAGE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP
Second division
Headingley v Bedford
Third division
Met Police v Wakefield (2.15)

CLUB MATCHES
Aberavon v Blackheath
Birkenhead Pk v Halifax (2.30)
Broughton Pk v Sheffield (2.45)
Cardiff v Newport
Cross Keys v Birmingham
Durham v Kendal (2.30)
Ebbw Vale v Lydney
Fylde v Orrell (2.30)
Glamorgan W v Weston
Llanelli v Pontypool
L Welsh v Bridgend (2.30)
Newbridge v Exeter
Northern v Hartlepool (2.30)
Nottingham v Pontypridd
Nuneaton v Abertillery
Roundhay v Middlesbrough
Rugby v Hull and ER (2.30)
S Wales Police v Neath
Vale of Lune v L Irish (2.30)
W Hartlepool v Harrogate (2.30)

McEWAN'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE
First division
Edinburgh Acads v Kilmarnock
Kelso v Boroughmuir
Melrose v Musselburgh
Selkirk v Glasgow Acads
Stewart's Mel v Hawick
Watsonians v Heriot's
West of Scotland v Ayr

MIDLANDS: Club matches: Aston University v Bedworth; Aylesbury St James v Wellingborough; Barkers Butts v Tamworth; Belgrave v Corby; Birmingham City Officials v Spartans; Birmingham Welsh v Harbury; Camp Hill v Bromsgrove; Cannock v Market Drayton; Coalville v Bedworth; Cross Keys v Birmingham; Oxonians v Ludlow; Edwardians v Malish; Five Ways v Birmingham Medics; Hereford v Kidderminster; Hinckley v Wimmington Park; Kettering v Dudley Kingswinford; Kibworth v Buckingham; Kings Norton v Malvern; Lynoch v Birchfield; Leamington v Mansfield; Leicester Medics v Manchester Medics; Lichfield v Walsall; Long Buckby v Lutterworth; Long Eaton v Keresley; Luctonians v Coventry Welsh; Macclesfield v Newcastle; Melton v Boston; Newbold v Banbury; Northampton Mens Own v Broad Street; Nottingham University v Amber Valley; O Centrals v Earlsdon; O Coventrians v Southam; O Halesonians v Evesham; O Laurentians v Northampton Casuals; O Newtonians v Rugby St Andrews; O Wheatleyans v Oadby Wyggestonians; O Yardleians v Keresley; Redditch v Bridgnorth; Rotherham v Moderns; Rugby Welsh v GEC Coventry; Selly Oak v Aston O E; Shipston v Birmingham Civil Service; Silhillians v Leamingtonians; Southend v Solihull; South Leicester v Loughborough; Southwell v Newark; Stafford v Derby; Stoke O B v Northampton Trinity; Stourbridge v New Brighton; Stratford v Pershore; Sutton Coldfield v Syston; Telford v Whitchurch; Towcestrians v Stoneygate; Trentham v O Longtonians; Trinity Guild v O Salteians; Veseyans v Handsworth; Vipers v Nuneaton O E; Westleigh v Chesterfield; Widnes v Stoke; Willenhall v Erdington; Woodrush v O Moseleians; Worcester v Wolverhampton.

NORTH: Courage Clubs Championship: North East first division: Keighley v Thornensians. Yorkshire Shield second round: Bridlington v Sheffield Oaks; Castleford v Cleckheaton; Moortown v Roundhegians; Whitby v Wath-on-Dearne; Wibsey v Ilkley. Club matches: Baildon v Leeds University; Beverley v Scarborough; Bramley v Old Brodleians; Calder Vale v Bury; Davenport v Wigan; Goole v Rodillians; Guisborough v Yorkshire CW; Heaton Moor v Lymm; Hemsworth v Scunthorpe; Hessle v Heath; Homsea v Leeds CSSA; Huddersfield YMCA v Knottingley; Hullensians v Yarnbury; Ionians v Bradford Salem; Melton and Norton v Driffield; Manchester v Manchester University; Marist v West Leeds; Old Crossleyans v Huddersfield; Old Hymerians v West Park Bramhope; Old Otleensians v Alrebronians; Oldham v Leigh; Otley v London Scottish; Ponsefract v York RI; Preston Grasshoppers v Loughborough Students; Rotherham v Moderns; Sandal v Matlock; Sandbach v Rochdale; Sedgley Park v Merseyside Police; Selby v Headingley Wanderers; Sheffield Tigers v Morley Cavaliers; Warrington v Chester; West Park v Wharfedale; Wheatley Hills v Dinnington; Widnes v Stoke; Winnington Park v Burton; York v Doncaster.

IRISH: Ulster Senior League: First Section (2.30): Bangor v CIYMS; Instonians v Collegians; Malone v Ards. Section Two: Academy v Portadown; City of Derry v Dungannon; NIFC v Armagh. **Munster Senior Senior League Final:** Shannon v Constitution (at Thomond Park, Limerick).

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK ENGLISH LEAGUE: First division men: Capital City v Atlas Wessex (7.30); Polonia v Speedwell Rucanor (7.0); Malory v Liverpool City (6.30); Redwood Lodge v Radio Trent Rockets (7.15); Dragonara Leeds v Spark Crook Log (6.30); Staffordshire Moorlands v WH White Poole (7.30). **First division women:** Arsenal Britannia v Bradford Mythbreakers (2.30)

ROYAL BANK SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division men: Glasgow Gregg v Team Krystal Klear; East Kilbride v Team Fife; Team Scottish Farm v Bellshill Cardinals; Dundee Kirkton v MIM Livingston; Team A Plant DV v Kinleith Plant. **First division women:** Glasgow Bannerman v Larbert Ladies; Team Scottish Farm v Strathkelvin; Kyle v Carluke Brannock; Wheatsheaf Jets v Provincial Insurance.

Hawks v Indian Gymkhana; Trojans v Anchorians; Tunbridge Wells v Lewes. Regionals: Hampshire/Surrey: Bournemouth and WH v Barnes; Camberley v Fleet; Chichester v US Portsmouth; Goan v Woking; Merton v Basingstoke; Nat West Bank v Epsom; Old Edwardians v Metropolitan Police; Southampton University v Old Mid-Whigiftians. Kent/Sussex: Folkestone v Old Bordenians; Gravesend v Middleton; Herne Bay v Worthing; Marden Russets v Old Williamsonians; Mid-Sussex v Lloyds Bank; Old Beccehamians v Maidstone; Thames Polytechnic v Rochester and Gillingham; Tonbridge v Sevenoaks. Middlesex/Berks, Bucks and Oxon: Aylesbury v British Airways; City of Oxford v Bracknell; Harrow Town Swans v Sunbury; Hayes v NPL; Hendon v Gerrards Cross; Lyons v Marlow; Old Merchant Taylors v Witney; Reading University v Tilehurst.

WILSON LEAGUE: First division: Blowich v Harborne; Cannock v Derby; Chesterfield v Bournville; Pickwick v Olton and West Warwickshire; South Nottingham v Coventry and North Warwickshire; Stone v Kidderminster; Stourport v Khalsa; Wombourne v Leicester Westleigh.

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS LONDON LEAGUE (2.45): Blackheath v Reading; Bromley v Spencer; Cheam v Teddington; Dulwich v London University; Hampstead v Beckenham; Hawks v Slough; Maidenhead v Mid-Surrey; Purley v Hounslow; St Albans v Old Kingstonians; Southgate v Guildford (Cranleigh School, 12.15); Tulse Hill v Wimbledon.

McEWAN'S LAGER SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division: Bognor v Fareham; Eastcote v Canterbury; East Grinstead v Amersham; Gore Court v Old Tauntonians; Havant v Winchester; Oxford

WOMEN: National indoor hockey championship at Crystal Palace (8.45).

LACROSSE

BRINE NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Cheadle v Sale; Rochdale v Urmston; Sheffield Univ v Heaton Mersey.

BRINE SOUTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Hampstead v Hillcroft; Kenton v Buckhurst Hill; London Univ v Purley; Oxford Univ v Bath.

AVON INSURANCE SENIOR FLAGS: Semi final: Mellor v Old Hulmeians (at Stockport).

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG LEAGUE (8.0): Bolton and Bury v Oldham; Hemel and Watford v Solent; Manchester United v Birmingham; Derby v Sunderland; Calderdale v BCP London.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (men): Plymouth v Cardiff (7.30).

NATIONAL LEAGUE (women): Kingston v Stockport (6.0).

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Ayr Bruins v Murrayfield Racers (7.0); Fife Flyers v Solihull Barons (1.0); Nottingham Panthers v Dundee Tigers (6.30); Peterborough Pirates v Durham Wasps (5.45).

BOWLS

COUNTY INDOOR MATCHES: Bedfordshire v Buckinghamshire (at Bedford); Kent v Essex (at Folkestone); Middlesex v Surrey (at Paddington).

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Women's national cross-country championship (at Leeds).

DARTS: MFI world pairs (at The Paddocks, Canvey Island).

FENCING: National men's épée championship (at The de Beaumont Centre, London).

RACKETS: Celestion amateur doubles championship (Queen's Club).

TENNIS: Mortgage Corporation League: Telford v Manchester (2.30); Middlesbrough v Birmingham (2.30).

TOMORROW

3.0 unless stated

Barclays League

Second division
Middlesbrough v A Villa (2.35)

Third division
Brentford v Fulham (11.15)

FA Trophy: Third round: Chelmsford v Bromsgrove; Wokingham v Spennymoor (2.30).

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CUP: Second round: Doncaster v Mansfield; Halifax v Rochdale; Hull v Sheffield; Hull KR v Featherstone; Keighley v Widnes (3.15); Salford v Springfield; Wigan v Leeds.

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Castleford v Hunslet (3.30); Swinton v Leigh. **Second division:** Dewsbury v Batley (2.30); Fulham v Wakefield; Oldham v Carlisle; Whitehaven v Bramley (3.30); York v Huddersfield (2.15).

RUGBY UNION

2.30 unless stated

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE CUP: Semi-final: Bletchley v Marlow.

GIBBANK KENT CUP: Quarter-finals: Medway v Blackheath; Old Colfeians v Old Juddians.

HERTFORDSHIRE PRESIDENTS' CUP: Semi-final: Cheshunt v Welwyn.

MIDDLESEX CUP: Semi-finals: Hackney v Finchley; Old Merchant Taylors v Old Abbotstonians.

SURREY CUP: Semi-final: Camberley v Old Mid-Whitgiftians (at Esher RFC, 2.45).

UNDER-21 MATCH: Cambridgeshire v Suffolk (at Saffron Walden RFC, 2.45).

HANDBALL

MIDLANDS CUP (men): Quarter-final: Stafford Olympics v Warwick Jaguars (1.0).

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG LEAGUE (8.0): Kingston v Calderdale (3.0). **NATWEST TROPHY:** Livingston v Leicester (4.0).

NATIONAL LEAGUE (men, 4.0): Aberdare v Ellesmere Port; Gateshead v Market Harborough; Tower Hamlets v Stevenage.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (women, 4.0): London Jets v London YMCA; Nottingham v Ipswich (3.30); Sheffield v Crystal Palace.

BOWLS

COUNTY INDOOR MATCHES: Home Counties League: Oxfordshire v Sussex (at Arun and Oxford). Inter-county: Devon v Cornwall (at Dawlish); Kent v Middlesex (at Maidstone); Warwickshire v Worcestershire (at Coventry).

HOCKEY

NORWICH UNION EASTERN COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Essex v Hertfordshire (at Old Loughtonians HC, 2.15); Norfolk v Suffolk (at Dereham HC, 2.45).

NORWICH UNION EASTERN COUNTIES UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Essex v Hertfordshire (at Old Loughtonians HC, 12.30); Norfolk v Suffolk (at Dereham HC, 1.0).

COUNTY MATCHES (2.45): Cambridgeshire v Bedfordshire (at Cambridge HC); Kent v Lincolnshire (at Canterbury HC); Derbyshire v Yorksh

FOOTBALL: LIVERPOOL MEET A TEAM WITH ITS OWN UNBEATEN RECORD AT STAKE

Watford give Gibbs the unenviable task of subduing Barnes

By Clive White

Liverpool are not the only ones with a record to defend at Vicarage Road today. Watford, motivated by thoughts far removed from championship success, are unbeaten in the six senior games since Steve Harrison succeeded Dave Bassett as manager last month.

That may pale somewhat besides Liverpool's glorious run of 25 games without defeat since the season's start but it is no less important to a side that Kenny Jackett, their Welsh international, conceded yesterday seemed "destined for the second divison" just a short while ago.

"It didn't seem as if we could win a game, but now we're looking as if we're not going to get beaten at least," he said. Jackett said that Harrison had got them enjoying their football again. So much so that Jackett, who asked for a transfer under Bassett, is now negotiating a new contract with the club.

It would appear that Liverpool, still without Gillespie, Whelan and Lawrenson, will have their work cut out to preserve a record that Jackett feels will not survive the season. "When they do lose, though, I think it will be because of their own failing rather than the opposition's success," he said.

The match marks the return of Barnes to his grass roots and a capacity crowd of 25,000 will be there to welcome him back. Jackett admits to being surprised at Barnes's phenomenal success since his £900,000 transfer to Merseyside. "Barnes is a good player when you're on top and Liverpool are on top most of the time. He doesn't shine when you're up against it." Gibbs is the unfortunate soul who has been given the job of ensuring that Barnes, one goal away from double figures, is up against it today.

There will be no relaxation on the part of Everton, the next to confront the Liverpool monopoly in next week's FA Cup fifth round tie, not if Colin Harvey, the manager, has his way against Queen's Park Rangers. Thinking not a little wishfully, he said: "We need to pick up points and we are thinking about collecting as many as possible so that if anyone does slip up we will be in a position to do something about it.

"This is an important game and it is crucial that the players realize that because before next week's cup tie we will hopefully have another three or four players fit and available and there could be places up for grabs."

George Graham, the Arsenal manager, was another one holding out a carrot to his players. Commenting on the versatile Thomas who excelled in midfield against Everton last week, he said: "I surprised everyone by playing Michael in midfield and he was outstanding. There's no reason why he can't stay there if he plays like he did last week."

One sensed, though, that the remark was as much for the benefit of Williams, whose suspension has given Thomas his chance, as it was for the 20-year-old.

Arsenal will be giving another young man his chance against Luton today. With Sansom absent because of a virus, Dixon, the £400,000 signing from Stoke, makes his debut at right back with Winterburn moving across to his more accustomed left back position. Graham has still to decide whether Smith, fit after a hamstring strain, or Quinn should lead the line as Arsenal attempt to secure their first League win since December 5 in a game which could be a dress rehearsal for the Littlewoods Cup final.



Jackett: enjoying the Watford transformation

WEEKEND TEAM NEWS

Arsenal v Luton
Dixon, Arsenal's £400,000 signing from Stoke, is set to make his debut in place of Sansom, who has a virus. Thomas continues in midfield for Williams, who is suspended for two games. Rix joins the squad. Johnson, 19, will make his League debut for Luton if a gashed shin keeps Donaghy out. Johnson also requires a test on a knee injury. Allinson stands by.

Charlton v Wimbledon
Charlton have drafted Stuart, Leaburn and Williams into their squad, all predatory forwards. Wimbledon are unchanged.

Chelsea v Man United
Anderson returns for United, having recovered rapidly from a groin injury, unlike Duxbury, who is replaced by Albiston. Garton and Gibson join the squad. Hollins keeps faith with Freestone, the goalkeeper, despite the signing of Digweed from Brighton, but may start with West, the forward, for the first time.

Coventry v Sheffield Wed
Coventry, who have lost McGrath with a broken leg, could recall Houchen, Emerson and Pickering following various ailments. With Pearson injured, Wednesday may decide again on three central defenders and call up May and Fee. Hirst is in contention for a forward role after scoring twice for the reserves.

Everton v QPR
Everton, for whom Power has returned after five months away, are unchanged as Bracewell and Clarke have minor injuries. Rangers should be unchanged, though Byrne and Neill are squad inclusions.

Newcastle v Norwich
Lormor, a teenager, will make his debut for Newcastle if Goddard's calf injury does not improve. Tinnion plays if Wharton's groin injury is no better. Gunn returns for Norwich three weeks after a knee operation for Bernstead who has not conceded a goal while deputizing.

Oxford v Tottenham
Shelton, injured in midweek, is still not fit so Hill, his substitute, continues for Oxford. A late choice will be made between Hardwick and Judge in goal.

Southampton v Nottm F
Case and Bond are recalled by Southampton after serving suspensions but Bond, who gashed a forehead for the reserves, needs a fitness test. Maskell, who has scored 20 goals for the reserves, is back in the squad. Forest, without Foster and Rice, switch Chettle to central defence and Osvold comes in on the left wing. Wilkinson is fit.

Watford v Liverpool
Watford give a late test to the hamstring and knee injuries of Hodges and Chivers; Bissett and Gibbs are held in reserve. *Liverpool, still without Whelan,* Gillespie and Lawrenson, should be unchanged. Paul Walsh and Alex Watson, the brother of Everton's Dave, are added to the 13 on duty last week.

West Ham v Portsmouth
Dickens continues in an unchanged West Ham side despite breaking his nose last week. *Ince and Ward have recovered from* a virus. Kelly, a Republic of Ireland youth international winger, aged 18, is called into the Portsmouth squad in place of Fillery (chicken-pox). Hardyman and Baird are also included.

Tomorrow

Middlesbrough v A Villa
Villa hope Thompson will return after a back injury. If not they choose between Aspinall and Platt, a £200,000 signing from Crewe. Rioch keeps his options open after the disappointment *against Everton.*

Hope plays down chances

By Paul Newman

Bromsgrove Rovers, who provided the biggest upset in this season's FA Trophy when they knocked out Barnet last month, go to **Cheltenham Town** in the fourth round tomorrow hoping to take advantage of their opponents' recent poor form. Cheltenham's last two home results in the GM Vauxhall Conference have been a 5-1 defeat against Boston United and a 1-1 draw against lowly Northwich Victoria.

However, Bromsgrove have four players — Attwood, Brighton, O'Meara and Shilvock — doubtful because of injury and Bobby Hope, the Beazer Homes League club's manager, plays down his side's chances. "If we can beat Barnet, the best non-League team in the country at the moment, then we shouldn't fear anybody, but realistically Cheltenham have to be the favourites," he said. "We will have to be at the top of our form and Cheltenham a bit below their best for us to win."

A crowd of up to 4,000 is expected at Cheltenham and a big gate is also likely at **Telford United** today for the visit of **Stafford Rangers**, a tie which brings together the teams in third and fourth place in the Conference. **Lincoln City**, the team immediately above them *and favourites to win the Trophy* in their first season in the competition, entertain **Maidstone United**.

The meeting of **Wokingham Town** (Vauxhall-Opel League) and **Spennymoor United** (Drybroughs Northern League) tomorrow ensures that there will be at least one club from outside the Conference in the quarter-finals. **Barrow** (Northern Premier League), **Leyton-Wingate** (Vauxhall-Opel League) and ***Witton Albion*** (Northern Premier League) face **Runcorn**, **Macclesfield Town** and **Enfield** respectively today.

Ferguson mixed loyalty

Ian Ferguson, St Mirren's outstanding young midfield player, is likely to make his final appearance for the club today — against the side he is likely to join, Rangers.

The St Mirren directors rejected three offers from Rangers, including £750,000, and despite a late inquiry from *Manchester United*, Ferguson is only interested in moving to the Scottish champions and St Mirren have reluctantly agreed he may go for the fee.

Alex Smith, the St Mirren manager, said: "Ferguson definitely plays against Rangers and lathough he has struggled recently. Ibrox is the perfect stage for him to show what a good player he can be."

● Wesley Saunders, **Carlisle United**'s central defender, has joined ***Dundee for £100,000 and*** expects to make his debut at home *against Celtic, the leaders, today.*

● Steve Whitton, **Birmingham City**'s top scorer, was fined £200 and warned as to his future conduct — but received no further match suspension — from an FA disciplinary commission yesterday after remarks he made to the referee after he was sent off against **Bournemouth** on New Year's Day.

● **Aston Villa** have notified Football League clubs that Gary Shaw, on a month's loan to **Blackpool** after six knee operations, is available for transfer. Gareth Williams, a £10,000 buy from non-League Gosport, has lost his chance of a call-up for the television game against **Middlesbrough** tomorrow after injuring his ankle in the reserve *game.*

Tough task for League leaders

Glenavon, present a difficult obstacle in the Smirnoff Irish League at Mourneview Park today (George Ace writes).

Tommy Jackson, manager of **Glenavon**, who have a five-point gap at the top, said: "If we take three points at Mourneview I will be a happy man."

Linfield, in second place, are almost certain to restore their captain, David Jeffrey, to the side for their home match *against Newry Town. Jeffrey has* been out since December because of suspension and injury.

Coleraine, seven points adrift in third spot but with two matches in hand, have the easiest task of the top three — a home game against the basement club, **Crusaders**.

ATHLETICS

Giant of the track ready to lap up his indoor chance

From Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent, New York

The Land of the Giants should hold no fears for Sebastian Coe. Like Said Aouita, a possible opponent in the race for a third Olympic 1,500 metres title in Seoul, like Miruts Yifter, double Olympic gold medal winner in Moscow, and like many other featherweight flyers, Coe has long ago rendered into myth the sporting adage that "a good big 'un will always beat a good little 'un".

The only thing Coe has *to fear* in his North American indoor debut at the Meadowlands — home of the New York Giants and New York Jets football teams — this evening is the amount of time that he has been out of competition. His last race before an Achilles tendon injury ruined last summer was an 800 metres in the British Athletics League at Portsmouth in May, his first race of the season. Previously, his last international competition was back in September 1986, when, after winning his first major 800 metres title at the European championships, he allegedly signed off from that distance internationally with a 1min 44sec victory at Crystal Palace.

But last year's injury ruined any hopes Coe had of moving up to 5,000 metres, and 800 is now back on the *agenda* as a well-proven prelude to the Olympic 1,500 metres. But tonight's outing is over 3,000 metres, the distance at which he won the AAA junior *title 13* years ago, and at which he has regularly competed on Cosford's 200-metre lap.

Any suggestion in the past that Coe might race on the 10- and 11-laps-to-the-mile "boards" of the American indoor circuit was always met with: "I'd get dizzy." But the desire to break up a six-week training stint in Florida, coupled *with the need to get back into* competition — and a $15,000 (about £8,500) incentive on the side — has steadied the head.

"Friends here have advised *me to either be prepared to fight,* and stand my ground at the front, or run at the back as long as I don't lose contact. The worst place on these small tracks is *in the middle of the field,* getting knocked from pillar to post," Coe said yesterday before being shown around the track by Eamonn Coghlan. The Irishman, presently injured, was responsible for advising on the building of the track, on which he subsequently set a 3min 49.78sec indoor mile record.

But Coghlan warned: "I'm not giving Seb any tips on how to run the track, just in case he comes back next year and beats me." One man who might have done so *this year, José-Luis* Gonzalez, has been switched to the mile tonight, so Coe, who has prepared with some fast road sessions, should have a much easier time *against Frank* O'Mara, Doug Padilla, Brian Abshire, Jim Spivey and Joe Falcon.

Gonzalez now runs against Marcus O'Sullivan and Peter Elliott; Butch Reynolds takes on Antonio McKay and Mike Franks in the 400 metres; and Gwen Torrance goes for her *35th straight* indoor victory in the 60 metres in what should be the best meeting of the North American circuit.

Most of the athletes will carry on to Fairfax, Virginia, tomorrow evening, where the highlight will be O'Sullivan and Elliott against Abdi Bile Abdi.

Racing chance to join fund run

The Mars London Marathon on April 17 will be the biggest marathon in the world and, for many competitors, the emphasis *will be on* making money for charity rather than achieving a particular finishing time. *The Times*/Tandem Computers Marathon Appeal is designed to boost the funds raised through the event for worthwhile causes.

For those whose entry was not among the 30,000 selected to compete from the 52,000 who *applied* — or who were too late, or simply did not think about it — here is a chance to win one of 12 places on offer through our competition.

The Times and Tandem Computers, who provide complete computing facilities for the build-up, running and results of the race, will award the places to *those "fund-runners"* considered by our judges to have the most worthwhile causes to support.

Last year our similar exercise attracted hundreds of people with charities they wished to back with a marathon effort. The 12 we chose had targets as varied as Age Concern Wales, a



village centre in Surrey and the *Dyslexia Institute.* It is estimated that the 12 runners raised more than £18,000 among them.

We again welcome friends of such good causes, along with those backing national and local charities, those seeking support for an individual adventure, or those who want to finance an extension to the scout hall. All will be considered in our aim to provide the opportunity for 12 of them to use this appeal and the Mars London Marathon as a way of capturing attention to all the fund-raising and sponsorship they can arrange.

Tandem is offering prizes of £250, £150 and £100 in sports shop vouchers, or contributions to their causes, to the three biggest fund-raisers from our 12. Every member of the squad will receive mementoes.

All you have to do is explain, in no more than 200 words, why you and the campaign you support deserve one of *The Times*/Tandem Computers places in the Mars London Marathon. Your letter must also note the full address of your chosen charity or other beneficiary of your efforts, your name, address and daytime telephone number, date of birth, experience of distance running and your willingness to run in the Marathon.

Letters should be sent to *The Times*/Tandem Computers Marathon Appeal, Sports Department, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN, to arrive no later than February 19. Entries will be examined by a panel of judges, including Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent of *The Times*, and Mike Lambert, marketing director of Tandem Computers UK.

From the entries they will select a short-list of people who will be checked for their suitability to run 26 miles 385 yards and the authenticity of their chosen campaign. When the short-list has been examined, we will publish the names of the 12 winners and their causes. Each will be featured in *The Times*. The judges' decision is final.

Absent faces likely

By Barry Trowbridge

Leading administrators of British cross-country running will today get the first indication of how the previously prestigious national championships have been affected by the decision to hold specific trial races to select athletes for the world championships.

The English women's championships, sponsored by Provincial Insurance, take place at Roundhay Park, Leeds, this afternoon, and until this winter — the first when British teams, rather than squads from each of the four home countries, will be running in the world championships — have been used as the basis for selection.

But with the teams for Auckland already named, following the trials at Gateshead two weeks ago, it is probable that none of the six women chosen will compete today.

With Jane Shields, the reigning champion, also a non-starter, the recent area championships may give an indication of the likely winner. Those titles went to Sue Crehan (North), Shireen Samy (Midland) and Ann Ford (South), but Melissa Watson, Sally Ellis and Helen Titterington are also in good form.

Watson, from Swindon, won the Inter-League race in January and finished second to Ford last Saturday, Ellis was runner-up last year and leads the strongly fancied Birchfield squad, and Titterington, who place third in the world student championships last month, was winning the British university title on the day of her area race.

BOXING

Marsh returns to ring

Terry Marsh, whose epilepsy forced him to give up boxing last September, was back in the ring yesterday. The former world champion sparred with no headguard or gumshield against a light-welterweight, Aniefiok Eka, aged 24, who could become his first signing as a manager.

"It's one way of finding out what he's like," Marsh said. "I still do some running, but until today I haven't had any time for gym work. It's like riding a bike though — you don't forget."

Marsh is a co-promoter of next Wednesday's show at York Hall, Bethnal Green.

● *Two major London promotions* could be on collision course yet again just 10 weeks after the two bitterly opposed groups, Frank Warren and the Mike Barrett-Mickey Duff company, promised to avoid a *repeat of the clash that kept* supporters away from shows at Wembley and the Albert Hall (Srikumar Sen writes).

Both camps could again find themselves promoting important championships in the same empty halls on the same day, March 9. With a fine sense of timing, both groups have called Press conferences on Monday to announce details of their shows. This time the clash will have an ironic twist: *Warren's show will feature two* top boxers managed by the Barrett-Duff group.

SQUASH RACKETS

Cumings back to form

Alison Cumings, a former *national champion worried by a* series of injuries over the past two seasons, returned to ruthless competitive form in yesterday's first round of the Bovis Homes International at Herts Country Club, Welwyn Garden City, beating Rae Anderson, of Australia, 9-4 9-1 9-1 in just 20 minutes (Colin McQuillan writes).

Anderson was once a weighty personality in the women's international game as chairman of the Players' Association and the world No. 8. Against Cumings she appeared only to have retained the physical heaviness of previous times.

The Englishwoman, aged 25, of Surrey, was part of the national squad that successfully defended the world team title in New Zealand last summer, but a fractured kneecap and persistent back problems have otherwise kept her from the top international scene for most of two years.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Pists	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) –	°C
AUSTRIA							
Kitzbühel	25	105	good	varied	fair	cloud	–0.5
Worn patches on lower slopes							
Obergurgl	80	205	good	powder	good	snow	0
Excellent snow everywhere							
FRANCE							
Flaine	135	300	good	powder	good	snow	–3
Skiing limited, snowing heavily							
Tignes	165	245	good	powder	good	snow	–2
Excellent snow, bad weather							
Val Thorens	140	190	good	powder	good	snow	–5
Powder snow on a hard base							
SWITZERLAND							
Crans Montana	110	200	good	powder	fair	snow	–1
Snowing heavily							
Gstaad	40	80	good	powder	good	snow	–2
Fantastic powder skiing							
Klosters	50	130	good	powder	good	snow	1
More snow and strong winds							
St Moritz	100	160	good	powder	good	snow	–5
New snow on good base							
Verbier	75	215	good	powder	good	snow	–5
New snow on good base							
Wengen	60	110	good	powder	good	snow	–1
Excellent skiing conditions							
Zermatt	70	140	good	varied	fair	cloud	–2
Good skiing on piste							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

SCOTLAND

Cairngorm: upper runs, runs complete, wide cover, new snow; middle runs, runs complete, wide cover, new snow; lower slopes, runs complete, wide cover, new snow; nursery vertical runs, 2,000ft: hill roads, slight snow; main roads, clear; snow level, 1,000ft. **Glenshee:** upper runs, complete, wide cover, new snow on a firm base; middle runs, complete, wide cover, new snow on a firm base; lower slopes, ample nursery areas, new snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 1500ft; hill roads, clear; main roads, clear; snow level, 1,200ft. **Glencoe:** (weekends and Mondays only): upper runs, complete, wide cover, new snow on a firm base; lower slopes, runs complete, wide cover, new snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 2,000ft; hill roads, slight snow; main roads, clear; snow level, 700ft. **Lecht:** upper runs, complete, wide cover, powder snow on a firm base; middle runs, complete, wide cover,powder snow on a firm base; lower slopes, runs complete, wide cover, powder snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 700ft; hill roads, slight snow; main roads, clear; snow level, 2000ft. **Glenmore:** for the skiing areas (today): strong to gale force southerly winds on the slopes; most places will see snow overnight followed by snow showers later on Saturday morning and afternoon; *winds becoming south westerly with the* showery weather and *decreasing* to strong. *Tomorrow:* snow showers and sunny or clear periods; south westerly winds continuing to moderate.

● Information supplied by the Scottish Meteorological Office.

GERMANY	L	U
Berchtesgaden	10	85
Garmisch	10	50
Hindelang	20	60
Kleinwalsertal	–	–
Mittenwald	20	50
Oberammergau	–	–
Oberjoch	20	60
Oberstaufen	30	35
Oberstdorf	20	255

● Information supplied by the German Automobile Club.

SPAIN	L	U
Baqueira Beret	80	155
Cerler	50	180
Formigal	100	180
La Molina/Masella	20	60
Panticosa	80	155
Sol y Nieve	20	140

● Information supplied by the Spanish National Tourist Office.

GOLF

Hawaii trade winds upset later starters

Honolulu — Bernhard Langer and Tom Watson each scored 69 as the orange sun sank into the Pacific on the first day of the Hawaian Open at Waialae (John Ballantine writes).

The trade winds strengthened in the afternoon, making judging distance more difficult, so nobody caught the early 66s of Richard Zokol, of Canada, and Jodie Mudd, of Kentucky, although Lanny Wadkins, one of the best wind players in the game, nearly did with a 68.

But it was likely to be quite a different story in yesterday's second round. Those who had been last were first away and were tackling the course in the calm of early morning with virtually no breeze disturbing the flight of the ball.

LEADING FIRST ROUND SCORES (US unless stated): 66: R Zokol, J Mudd. 67: S Simpson, B Bryant. 68: L Wadkins, J Inman, J Brooks, R Madsen, L Roberts. 69 (first): B Langer (West Germany), T Watson, C Beck, E Fiori.

Unkind bounce leaves Davies worrying

From Patricia Davies, Sarasota, Florida

Making the cut is not something Laura Davies and Trish Johnson often have to worry about on the European tour, but they were in for an anxious day of scoreboard-watching after completing their second rounds in the Sarasota Classic at a windswept Bent Tree country club yesterday.

Davies, who last week missed the cut by one shot, feared the same fate after a 77 left her on 151, seven strokes over par. Johnson, level par over night, shot a 79 to be on the same score and was left hoping the wind would become more ferocious as the day wore on.

Liselotte Neumann, the runaway first-round leader after a 64, had not set off when her fellow-Europeans sank their last putts, but Beth Daniel, tied for second after one round, had a 73 and was the leader in the clubhouse on 141.

Davies blamed it all on the second hole, her 11th. "I hit a good drive but it hit the cart path, not once but twice, and then the ball hit a bridge and bounced back into a ditch I *didn't know was there.* It must have been 320 yards from the tee and I had to take a penalty drop and ended up with a double-bogey six." Undoubtedly *a little overanxious* after that, Davies dropped shots at her 15th and 16th.

Johnson, meanwhile, dropped shots at three holes on the first nine and four on the second, with not a birdie in sight.

EARLY LEADING SECOND ROUND SCORES: (US unless stated): 141: B *Dansel, 68, 73.* 142: *C Johnston, 70, 72.* 143: D Germain, 71, 72: M Spencer-Devlin, 70, 73. 144: A Benz, 70, 74; D White, 71, 73; J Carner, 70, 74. 146: T J Myers, 70, 76; H Farr, 74, 72. 147: J Dea, 73, 74. K Shipman, 73, 74. V Fergon, 74, 73. D Ammaccapane, 75, 72. Others: 151: L Davies (GB), 74, 77; T Johnson (GB), 72, 79. 158: C Pierce (GB), 78, 80.

HANG-GLIDING

Pendry's title drifts way out of reach

Bright, Australia (AFP) — John Pendry, *of Great Britain,* the defending champion, had another poor flight here yesterday, and slipped to twelfth place in the world championship with only one flight left. Rick Duncan, of Australia, extended his lead with a perfect flight, scoring 1,000 points to move 302 clear of Steve Moyes, a fellow-Australian, with Bruce Case, of the United States.

Australia still lead the team event, but the United States remained in comfortable striking distance, 349 points behind.

LEADING PLACINGS AFTER SIX ROUNDS: 1, R Duncan (Aus), 8,276pts; 2, S Moyes (Aus), 7,974; 3, B Case (US), 7,943; 4, T Boyse (US), 7,789; 5, L Tudor (US), 7,765; 6, B Goldsmith (GB), 7,752. Teams: 1, Australia, 30,858pts; 2, United States, 30,509; 3, Great Britain, 28,772.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Ambitions to be ended

By Keith Macklin

The luck of the draw means that two of the top sides will disappear from the Silk Cut Challenge Cup at the conclusion of this weekend's second round ties, while one of *the unfashionable strugglers,* **Doncaster** or **Mansfield**, will march into the quarter-finals.

Today **Warrington** meet **St Helens** in a fierce head-on collision between Lancashire rivals with Wembley ambitions. Tomorrow at Central Park, ***Wigan***, *the favourites,* meet **Leeds** in yet another battle of the giants.

St Helens go to Warrington *today without their most* effective forward, Andy Platt, the Great Britain international who has been suspended for four matches. Warrington are at full strength.

Both Wigan and Leeds are suffering from injuries to key personnel, with Wigan missing Bell and Gill as badly as Leeds miss Crooks and Creasser. Both squads have good reserve strength but Wigan will surely also miss Hanley, after he was left out by Graham Lowe, their coach, *for disciplinary* reasons.

Halifax, the cup holders, on paper have a reasonably comfortable task against ***Rochdale Hornets***, but cannot afford to be complacent.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

TURIN: International indoor meeting: Men: 60m: A Ulbo (It), 6.61sec. 200m: F Schönbeck (Ger), 20.91sec. 400m: J Carlonero (ESp), 45.92sec. 800m: 1, *P Matejkak* (Yug), 1min 46.40sec; 2, S Popovic (Yug), 1:46.44. 1,500m: 1, J-P Harnold (Eng), 3min 40.91sec; 2, H Horn (Eg), 3:42.62; 3, S Crnokrk (Yug), 3:43.73. High jump: G Wessig (Eg), 2.29m. Pole vault: C Putz (Eg), 5.55m. Long jump: R Beer (Eg), 7.89m. Triple jump: D Kozul (Yug), 16.89m. Shot: T Potter (Eg), 19.28m. Women: 60m: I Auerswald (Eg) 7.17sec. 200m: S Gürtner (Eg), 23.28sec. 400m: 1, P Müller (Eg), 50.37sec; 2, D Neubauer (Eg), 50.75. 800m: 1, C Wachter (Eg), 1min *57.64sec* (world record); 2, S Wodars (Eg), 1:58.22. 1,500m: 1, A Hahmann (Eg), 4min 05.15sec; 2, *K Wünn (Eg), 4:05.67. High jump: G Götz* (Eg), 1.97m. Long jump: H Drechsler (Eg), 7.04m.

RUSHMOOR (Aldershot): Inter-services cross-country championships: Senior men (5 miles). 1, C Robison (RN), 28min 40sec; 2, P Jenkins (RAF), 28:47; 3, G Wade (Army), 28:54; 4, C Donnelly (RAF), 29:12; 5, J McNally (RAF), 29:15; 6, R Hackney (RAF), 29:17; 7, M Flint (RAF), 29:17; 8, J Wright (Army), 29:18. Teams: 1, Royal Air Force, 35pts; 2, Army, 61; 3, Royal Navy, 105. Veterans (6 miles): 1, Clarke (RAF) 31min 00sec. Teams: Royal Air Force, 16pts. Juniors (4 miles): G Faulkner (RAF), 21min 07sec. Team: Royal Air Force, 11pts. Women (3 miles): 1, M Smith (Army), 19min 48sec; 2, S Heath (WRAF), 19:56; 3, J Cooper (WRAF), 20:38. Team: Women's Royal Air Force, 18pts.

SQUASH RACKETS

WELWYN GARDEN CITY: Bovis Homes International tournament: Men's singles (British unless stated): First round: G Rozier-Lund (SA) bt J Cook, 9-4, 9-6, 9-2; M Wyatt bt P Yerby, 9-7, 5-9, 9-6, 3-9, 9-6, G Fernando bt Jon Foster, 9-3, 9-2, 9-0; A Schreiber (Aus) bt Jason Foster, 9-3, 9-5, 6-9, 9-1. Women's singles (British unless stated): First round: R Anderson (Aus) bt R Hadfield (NZ), 9-6, 9-6, 9-0; S MacFie bt S Raley, 4-9, 9-0, 9-1, retired; T Mihyalmi (Fin) bt S Langley-Fozer, 6-10, 9-6, 9-3, 9-1; S Roberts bt M Fryer, 8-10, 6-9, 9-4, 10-8, 9-6.

FOOTBALL

LONDON SENIOR CUP: First round: Barnsham Wood 2, Clapton 0; Barking 2, Southall 0.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: Liverpool 6, Bradford City 0, Manchester United 1, Grimsby Town 0.

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: National Hockey League (NHL): Washington Capitals 5, New York Rangers 3; Toronto Maple Leafs 4, New York Islanders 3; New Jersey Devils 4, Montreal Canadiens 2; Los Angeles Kings 5, Quebec Nordiques 3; Edmonton Oilers 7, Vancouver Canucks 2.

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB, London: Celestion amateur doubles championships: Quarter-final: W Boone and R Crawley bt R Mason and J Hughes, 15-7, 17-14, 18-13, 15-9.
HAILEYBURY COLLEGE: British professional championships: Singles: First round: P Bosker bt R Toogood, 15-10, 15-5, 15-3. Second round: P Rosser bt P Wells, 15-11, 15-8, 17-14; N Cripps bt D Johnson, 15-11, 15-6, 4-15, 15-8; R Wakely bt Brake, 10-15, 15-8, 15-4, 15-0.

GOLF

BLOEMFONTEIN: Tournament: Leading scores after three rounds (South African unless stated): 199: J Hawkes, 64, 69, 66. 202: *I Palmer, 67, 68, 67.* 202: *J Bland, 67, 67, 68.* 203: J Townsend (US), 68, 68, 67. 204: M McNulty, 74, 69, 61; H Baloochi, 71, 66, 67; H Buhrmann, 68, 65, 71. 205: J Ferenz (US), 67, 71, 67; D Stevenson, 68, 72, 65; T Johnson, 65, 70, 69; T Dodds, 67, 67, 71. 206: R Lee (GB), 71, 69, 66; T Sutler (US), 72, 68, 66; T Webber, 71, 68, 69.
KINGSTON HEATH (Melbourne): Victorian Open: Leading scores after two rounds (Australian unless stated): 136: O Moore, 67, 69. 137: J Benepe (US), 69, 68. 138: P Fowler, 67, 71; P McWhinney, 68, 70. 139: B King, 67, 72; B Officer, 69, 70; I Baker-Finch, 70, 69; W *Case (US), 73, 66.* 140: *B Dale, 68, 72;* K Trimble, 71, 69; G Alexander, 70, 70; M King, 68, 72; R Mackey, 73, 67. 141: M Colanero (US), 72, 69.
NAIROBI: Kenya Open: Leading scores after two rounds (British unless stated): 131: C Platt, 66, 65. 133: D Jones, 66, 64. 136: D James, 72, 64. 138: S Dye, 71, 67. 139: D Stevens, 69, 70; C Gray, 69, 70; C Monegomerie, 74, 65. 140: M Lambsborough, 69, 71. 141: P Kent, 72, 69; A Edwards (Zimbabwe), 73, 68; D Jagger, 72, 69. 142: C Mason, 69, 73.
HONG KONG: Hong Kong Open: Leading scores after two rounds: 136: Li Wen-shen (Taiwan), 68, 67; Lu Chen-soon (Taiwan), 69, 67. Kyi Hla Han (Burma), 68, 68. 137: D Tentis (US), 72, 65; E Toledo (Mex), 70, 67. 139: M Trauner (US), 70, 69; C Nakama (US), 67, 72; D Feherty (GB), 67, 72. Other British scores: 146: I Woosnam, 79, 67. 151: R Foreman, 79, 72. 160: G Seed, 78, 72.

YACHTING

MANLY (Australia): World 505 two-man dinghy championships: Second race: 1, J Miller (US); 2, *S McConaghy (Aus);* 3, K Bergstrom (Swe); 4, D Blomford (Aus); 5, M Spence (GB). Other British placings: 10, C Hayworth; 11, J McLaran; 12, C Lewis; 13, R Prters.

RUGBY UNION

BRITISH POLYTECHNICS CHAMPIONSHIPS: Quarter-final: Polytechnic of Central London 12, South Bank Polytechnic 3.

SNOOKER

EDINBURGH: Scottish professional championship: Quarter-finals: M Gibson bt I Black, 6-2; M McLeod bt J Donnelly, 6-3; J Rea bt E Edbeg (Swe) bt M Gustafsson (Swe) 6-2, 6-7, 6-3, J Connors (US) bt L Pamek (Cz) 6-2, 6-3, M Sreiber (Cz) bt W Fibak (Pol), 6-2, 4-6, 6-3; M Schapers (Neth) bt D Goldie (US), 6-3, 6-4. Quarter-finals: M Macir (Cz) bt C Mezzadri (It), 6-2, 4-6, 6-4.

SPEED SKATING

ST LOUIS: World indoor short-track championships: Men: 1,000m: 1, P Van Der Velde (Neth), 1min 35.56sec. British placings: 4, W O'Reilly, 1:46.65. 3,000m: 1, R Suyren (Neth), 5min 10.15sec. British placings: 6, O Reilly, 5:19.25. Overall: 1, Van Der Velde. British placings: 4, O'Reilly. Women: 1,000m: 1, S Daigle (Can), 1min 41.35sec. 3,000m: 1, Daigle, 5min 20.13sec. Overall: 1, Daigle.

SWIMMING

EAST BERLIN: International meeting: Women: 200m freestyle: *H Friedrich (EG),* 1min 58.75sec. 400m freestyle: A Möhring (EG), 4min 09.44sec. 100m butterfly: B Weigang (EG), 1min 00.73sec. 100m backstroke: K Zimmermann (EG), 1min 02.53sec. 100m breaststroke: A Rex (EG), 1min 09.18sec. 200m individual medley: D Hunger (EG), 2min 15.36sec.

TABLE TENNIS

WORLD GRAND PRIX STANDINGS: 1, E Lindh (Swe), 900pts; 2, Kim Song Hui (N Korea), 756; 3, M Appelgren (Swe), 660; 4, A Grudza (Pol), 600; 5, J Persson (Swe), 520; 6, J-O Waldner (Swe), 450; 7, I. Kozharski (Pol), 425; 8, U Bengtsson (Swe), 400; 9, A Mezzunov (USSR), 380; 10, Chen Zhi Bin (China), 370.

TENNIS

LYON: Grand prix tournament: Men's singles: Fourth round: P Pech (Fr) bt T Tulasne (Fr), 6-7, 7-5, 6-2; B Dyke (Aus) bt T Pham (Fr), 5-7, 6-1; Y Noah (Fr) bt D Kerslec (WG), 6-3, 6-4; T Nelson (US) bt G Forget (Fr), 6-3, 6-4. Quarter-final: Y Doumbia (Senegal) bt J Bates (GB), 6-3, 7-5; Nelson bt Pech, 6-2, 7-6.
ROTTERDAM: Rabobco grand prix tournament: Men's singles: Second round: S Edberg (Swe) bt M Gustafsson (Swe) 6-2, 6-7, 6-3, J Connors (US) bt L Pimek (Cz) 6-2, 6-3, M Sreiber (Cz) bt W Fibak (Pol), 6-2, 4-6, 6-3; M Schapers (Neth) bt D Goldie (US), 6-3, 6-4. Quarter-finals: M Macir (Cz) bt C Mezzadri (It), 6-2, 4-6, 6-4.

BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN CHAMPION CLUBS' CUP: Quarter-finals, eighth series: Tracer Milan 115, Saturn Cologne 104.
WOMEN'S CHAMPION CLUBS' CUP: Semi-finals, seventh series: Primeg Vicenza (It) 102, Jedinstvo-Aida (Yug) 86
KONCHETTI CUP: Semi-finals, first leg: Dynamo Kiev 77, VS Prague 65.
UNITED STATES: National Basketball Association (NBA): Philadelphia 76ers 119, Milwaukee Bucks 113; Los Angeles Lakers 120, Denver Nuggets 106; Indiana Pacers 108, Golden State Warriors 107; Sacramento Kings 123 Portland Trail Blazers 113; Seattle SuperSonics 120, Houston Rockets 116.

WATER SKIING

BOTANY BAY: World championships: Second days: Men: 1, R Brown (Aus), 13 laps in 1hr 06min 38sec; 2, S Moore (GB), 1:06.44; 3, J Houbon (Bel), 1:09.35; 4, K Hoy (Aus) 12 laps in 1:07.26; 5, G Hardacre (Aus) 1:07.31; 6, S Gregono (It) 1:07.42. Other British placings: 8, D Kirkland, 13 laps in 1:15.59 (subject to protest). Women: 1, T Williams (Aus); 2, M May (US); 3, D Nordblad (US). British placings: 6, G Clements.

JUDO

Luck runs out for Brown

Paris — Kerrith Brown, the Olympic and world lightweight bronze medal winner, relies on a delicate balance of luck and tactics to win his matches, and for the first part of the Tournoi de Paris, the wind was blowing for him (Nicolas Soames writes).

Brown was at his alert and technical best to produce a deft rear throw for a small score to beat Jong Woo Lee, of South Korea, early in the competition. But Brown, aged 26, was very lucky to get a seven-point score against the Frenchman, Pascal Bozo.

But in his semi-final, against Yukihara Yoshitaka, of Japan, Brown seemed to have used up all his

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Reluctant Clough drops hint to an open-ended future

By Dennis Shaw

Brian Clough has closed the controversial chapter on his proposed part-time job as Welsh team manager by committing himself to Nottingham Forest at least for the last four months of his contract.

"Resignations are for prime ministers and cabinets," he said last night to quash reports that he was ready to walk out on Forest because of their refusal to let him do both jobs.

Clough has reluctantly accepted the Forest board's unanimous decision, while still insisting that it is a bad one. "Resigning is not for me," he said. "I only did so once, when I left Derby County on a matter of principle, and on that occasion the chairman should have gone instead."

However, in typical Clough fashion, he managed to leave the week's affairs slightly open-ended by adding: "I'm not going anywhere at the moment, but you never know what might happen in football."

That mischievously leaves Maurice Roworth, the Nottingham Forest chairman, uncertain about his volatile manager's intentions when his contract comes up for renewal in May. "There is nothing wrong with ambition or the desire to broaden horizons," Clough went on. "The Welsh job would have achieved this for me and made me a better manager."

Pride returns to Wales

If nothing else, Wales's brief flirtation with Brian Clough has done wonders for their self confidence (Clive White writes). "It has made us look harder at our value as a national team. Some of the members are now thinking in terms of a full-time appointment rather than part-time," Alun Evans, the secretary of the Football Association of Wales, said last night.

Whether the interest expressed by businessmen, eager to help finance the employment of Clough, will be as keen for someone else, remains to be seen. Evans said that they were very disappointed at not getting Clough. "I think we've lost a lot. He would have been very good for Wales."

One reason for his decision to stay on is the emerging potential of his young side, which is heading for a finishing position among the leading places of the first division.

Clough explained: "All I'm thinking of now is our match at Southampton. I was with Bobby Robson recently, and he said that we have the best bunch of youngsters in the country. It would be suicidal of me to walk out now."

As Clough grudgingly patched up his differences at the City Ground, the odd man out appeared to be Alan Hill who resigned from Notts County during the week, seemingly to join Clough in preparing the Welsh bid to qualify for the 1990 World Cup.

Hill yesterday met Dere Pavis, the chairman of County, and was left temporarily unemployed, but with the broad hint that he would start a new uproar on the banks of the River Trent by joining Clough back at Forest.

Pavis ruled that were Hill to join the FA of Wales, then he would do so with Notts County's blessing. But should he join "any other League club", compensation would be expected on a contract running until July 1989.

Clough said on Central TV last night: "The thought of resignation did go through my big head, but I decided to do what I'm always advising others to do, that's to go home and think hard first.

"I was taken completely by surprise by the decision, but the chairman gave me some very good reasons for it, and he's the gaffer. If I always got what I wanted, I would have been the England manager about 10 years ago. That wasn't to be, and now the Welsh situation is in the past. As far as I'm concerned, it's now all systems go at Nottingham Forest."

Earned chance

Warrington have signed Chris Rudd, the centre, and Gary Chambers, the second-row forward, from Kells.

Round the bend at the Winter Games



The iceman cometh: front seat view for the spectators too of the practice runs yesterday down the Olympic luge track (Photograph: Graham Wood)

Calgary set to equal all that has gone before

From David Miller, Calgary

They have long said in Calgary that if you do not like the weather, wait five minutes. Between Wednesday and Thursday the temperature rose 61 degrees, from 43° below freezing to 50° F. The luge run started to melt, even with artificial refrigeration, causing crashes.

The danger, genuine enough, of frost-bite and hypothermia among spectators at today's opening ceremony of the XV Winter Olympic Games had receded. It was now possible to step outside the front door without feeling that your face was being stripped as though by a bacon slicer.

When Peter Ueberroth, mastermind of the Los Angeles Games, cast his eye around the Winter Games in Sarajevo in 1984, six months beforehand, he said he doubted if America could generate the same glow of goodwill with which the Yugoslav volunteers infused their Games.

The ancient little city of Sarajevo had for two weeks a unique atmosphere of conviviality, yet the 50,000 volunteers spread across the metropolis of Los Angeles managed, in the event, to achieve something similar. If the mood of the past week is any guide, Calgary will maintain a level of hospitality which can be experienced on such a scale nowhere but in sport.

Ueberroth's torch run caused a huge controversy four years ago. Canada has staged something even more spectacular, an 18,000-kilometre relay across the nation lasting 89 days, sponsored by Petro-Canada and costing the participants nothing other than their enthusiasm for the Olympic concept. Nearly seven million householders applied to take part.

On Thursday in Edmonton, Joe Chase, aged 101, carried the flame for some 200 yards for what he said was the most moving experience of his life. All the evils of commercialism and drugs have failed to extinguish that rare abstract appeal of the Olympics.

Yesterday 10,000 people turned out at the little town of Red Deer to cheer the flame as it headed southwards on Highway 2, making a detour to the nursing home of the 111-year-old Agnes Munch. Today the flame will illuminate this slightly bizarre, fledgling city, an oil oasis in the middle of the Alberta Plains where old-time rawhide unsophistication rubs shoulders with one of the most accomplished Olympic Arts Festivals ever staged. Round every corner, Calgary surprises you.

The city has spent nearly $300 million on capital investment in the Games, almost exactly the same as the ABC television network of America has paid for US rights. Such is the whiphand that ABC holds over the organizers that this week the ice surface in the Saddledome has had to be relaid, at a cost of £12,000, because ABC producers did not like the varied reflection coming off the ice.

ABC will screen 97 hours, 53 in US prime-time viewing, including 80 per cent of the medal ceremonies; but they do not seem likely to have many American medals as their reward. American prospects are confined to Debi Thomas and Brian Boitano in the figure skating, Dan Jansen, echo of Eric Heiden, in the speed skating and Josh Thompson, favourite in the 20-kilometre biathlon, in which he is expected to outslog and outshoot the redoubtable Russians and Germans.

Thomas's rivalry with Katie Witt, the dazzling East German — their free programmes are both based on *Carmen* — will be one of the fortnight's highlights, as will Boitano's dual with Orser, of Canada, and Fadeyev, of the Soviet Union. Orser is having to make a psychological recovery following two heavy falls in the Canadian championships last month.

Calgary's organizing committee has been told so often in the past week, in formal speeches by Juan Antonio Samaranch at receptions given by Seoul, Barcelona, Albertville and others, that this is going to be the best ever winter games, that they are under some pressure to fulfill his prediction. Certainly the facilities are exceptional, especially the indoor speed skating hall and the view for hockey and figure skating in the novel Saddledome.

Canada's foremost hope, their ice hockey team, holds its breath for tomorrow's start against Poland. It has 63 exhibition matches behind it this year, has twice beaten the Soviet Union, yet still is not sure it can produce the grinding gamesmanship needed to defeat the top teams in possibly the most unscrupulous of all sports. The nation is behind it.

The two strongest favourites of the whole games are Matti Nykaenen, of Finland, the former World junior champion ski jumper who was suspended during 1986-87 for drunkenness but is unrivalled at 90 metres, and Gunde Svan, who seemingly is unmatched at 15 and 30 kilometres in the Nordic skiing.

There are, of course, those who are merely taking part, which includes most of the British team, and especially Michael Edwards, their ski jumper, whose achievement lies in merely being there. The same sentiment extends to Mexico's bobsleigh quartet, the four brothers Perea, who have driven 53 hours non-stop from Dallas to take part in a couple of borrowed sleds.

Surplus of room space and tickets

Calgary (Agencies) — Local officials say there are more tickets and accommodation available here for this Winter Olympics than at any time in the past two years. Fewer tourists than expected have left hundreds of hotel rooms vacant. "There's never been a better situation for accommodation," John Varga, manager of the Olympic Housing Bureau, said. "And there are tons of tickets available."

Hanley is dropped for cup-tie by Wigan

By Keith Macklin

The parting of the ways cannot be far away for Wigan and Ellery Hanley. Graham Lowe, the Wigan coach, yesterday dropped Hanley from the team to meet Leeds in tomorrow's Silk Cup Challenge Cup second round tie for "totally uncooperative behaviour and attitude".

This is not the first time that the Great Britain captain has been in trouble at Central Park. Hanley, scorer of 27 tries this season, was left out of the side when Wigan played Bradford Northern in the first round of the Cup, the official explanation being that he had failed to pass a fitness test. However, Lowe admitted yesterday that Hanley's withdrawal was due to precisely the same reasons that prompted the action yesterday.

Lowe commented: "I am sorry, for the Wigan supporters, to whom Hanley has been an idol, but no coach can tolerate the sort of behaviour Hanley has been showing in his attitude to training sessions. I do not know whether he has a future at the club. That is for other people to decide."

Hanley's personality, and a heightened self-esteem from world-wide publicity, has put him on a collision course with Lowe, the former New Zealand national coach. Only a few weeks ago, Hanley was stripped of the Wigan captaincy, while early last season, Hanley was staying away from Central Park because of a pay dispute with the club which was only resolved when Hanley became the highest-paid player in the British game.

There is no doubt that Hanley's world-class status would produce a record Rugby League transfer. When Hanley joined Wigan from Bradford Northern just over two seasons ago, the package deal was worth £150,000. The asking price today would be around £250,000.

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England call up Harford

Mick Harford, the Luton Town forward, celebrated his 29th birthday in style yesterday with an England call-up for next week's match against Israel in Tel Aviv. "I've waited a long time for the chance," he said.

Harford who scored against Malta last October in his only B team outing, added: "My ambition has always been to play for England, and if I get into the team I'll give everything — and won't let Bobby Robson down."

Bobby Robson, the England manager sent for Harford to reinforce his squad following the loss of Lineker and Hateley, through club commitments, and the injured Regis.

● Tottenham Hotspur may take on loan the Dutch international, Frank Rijkaard, aged 25, the former Ajax captain whose move to Sporting Lisbon has been complicated by the Portuguese FA's insistence that he cannot play in their country until the start of next season, because his move to Lisbon was finalised after their transfer deadline.

Tottenham have rearranged their home fixture against Manchester United for Tuesday, February 23 (7.45).● Rumours which suggested that Ian Rush was ready to leave Juventus and move back into the English game with Football League champions Everton were yesterday met with predictable responses from both Italy and Merseyside (Ian Ross writes).

Rush, eight months into a three-year contract with the Turin club following his £3.2 million transfer from Liverpool last summer, was swift to pour cold water on the story,

VAT bill adds to Portsmouth woes

The Customs and Excise added to Portsmouth's problems yesterday when they joined forces with the Inland Revenue to present the first division club with a £738,000 bill.

Portsmouth face a winding up order in the High Court next week for an unpaid tax bill of £626,000. Now the Customs men have claimed a further £112,000 VAT. The club's assets have been frozen by Lloyds Bank and the chairman, John Deacon, is paying the wage bill himself.

Defender Malcolm Shotton moves to Huddersfield Town next week for £70,000 to ease the immediate problem and manager Alan Ball, struggling to get clear of the relegation zone, has told the players the chairman is negotiating a deal to release cash and ease the position further.

Portsmouth's annual accounts revealed total debts of more than £1 million and a trading loss during last year's promotion season of £195,000 despite high attendances.

Portsmouth left itself open to creditors by failing to settle a £5,600 bill to TPT Fire Protection Services, of Andover, for work carried out at Fratton Park.

The relatively small debt was eventually paid, but not before TPT had instigated proceedings in the High Court. Although TPT is now withdrawing its action the Inland Revenue has stepped in as a substitute and used the petition for its claim.

Away day revellers can show the nation how

By Clive White

Victory in the televised game against Middlesbrough at Ayresome Park tomorrow and against Blackburn Rovers at Ewood Park six days later would serve a dual purpose for Aston Villa. First, it would equal the second division record, held by Birmingham City, of 13 away wins in a season, and second, Graham Taylor, the Villa manager, believes "it wouldn't half make us look formidable to the rest of the division".

Tomorrow's game between two of the top four sides will provide the armchair audience with their first real opportunity to assess the merit of the division

Middlesbrough have displayed a durability if nothing else in their protracted FA Cup tussle with Everton, the league champions, while Villa have not suffered from the departure of Walters to Rangers because Daley has done so well in his place. Taylor believes that if Daley continues to develop, he could provide Villa with even more options than Walters did. "The emergence of Daley has been a great bonus. He's one of the quickest players I've ever seen and has a surprising capacity to ride the fiercest tackle," Taylor said.

Since three previous meetings between Villa and Middlesbrough this season have resulted in 1-0 scorelines (two in Villa's favour), ITV will no doubt hope that it is a case of quality not quantity.

END COLUMN

Bad habits that run the risk of addiction

From Pat Butcher
Athletics Correspondent
New York

Some habits are hard to break, and even when he had suggested yesterday that there were national athletic federations "who might only be paying lip service to drug-testing", John Holt, the general secretary of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) said he did not believe that any grand prix promoters would offer immunity from drug-testing to athletes to tempt them to meetings.

There is a school of thought which says that Holt, and, indeed, all other officials will naturally deny any allegations of impropriety. But in doing so they run the considerable risk of turning their backs on what many in the sport claim to know is a serious problem.

The athletes themselves believe that there is widespread drug abuse, and that there is collusion to cover it up. Even now, a panel of inquiry in Britain is starting to investigate allegations made in *The Times* about such alleged cover-ups.

And, to counter its own lack of credibility, the IAAF will soon announce that it has asked three of its leading delegates outside the immediate administration to investigate the commitment to anti-drug legislation among the national federations.

Three-man panel to investigate

The three-man panel will consist of Professor Arne Lundqvist, the Swedish head of the IAAF medical committee, Bob Hersch, a New York lawyer who is on the IAAF technical committee, and Andreas Bruegger, the promoter of the leading grand prix meeting, in Zurich.

The three are among the most respected people in world athletics, and have been asked, in Holt's words, "to ascertain just where countries are in their anti-doping programmes. We will then ask them how they think the programmes can be improved, and to report back to (the IAAF) Council in April".

Since there are more than 180 countries in the IAAF, this might seem a tall order. But it is no secret that it is among the few leading athletics nations, such as the United States, the Soviet Union, East and West Germany, the United Kingdom and Italy, where the problem is worst.

There still seems little that the three can do in the time available except identify and name the extent of the problem. For that is where the IAAF, like the British Board, is manifesting its lack of intent — in denying even that there is a problem.

Wales to keep faith in Twickenham heroes

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The Welsh team which finished in victory last Saturday against England will start against Scotland in the Rugby Union five nations' championship match in Cardiff on February 20. So the unfortunate Neath hooker, Kevin Phillips, loses his place to Ian Watkins, of Ebbw Vale, who won his first cap in such auspicious circumstances at Twickenham.

Phillips had to leave the field after bruising his hip badly early in the game against England; he plays for Neath against Swansea today but too late to erase the impression left by Watkins, whose accurate throwing at the lineout had so much to do with Wales's second-half resurgence.

Watkins became his club's first international since Clive Burgess in 1982 and only the eighth produced by Ebbw Vale. He runs his own bottled gas business and first played for Ebbw Vale as an 18-year-old in 1981, making his first B international appearance against Italy two years ago and winning a replacements' place against the United States last November.

Otherwise the Welsh selectors have left well alone, thankful at the support they have received from several leading clubs this weekend. Pontypool, for instance, have chosen to rest Ring and Staff Jones from their team against Llanelli today.

"If we want Wales to get to the top it's up to all of us to give what we can, when we can," Bobby Windsor, the Pontypool coach and former Wales hooker, said. Bowen, the Welsh captain, who was absent from Thursday evening's squad fitness training because of influenza, misses the game between South Wales Police and Penarth.

There has been speculation about the full-back position but Clement, though he plays stand-off half for Swansea today, retains the selectors' confidence.

WALES: A Clement (Swansea); I C Evans (Llanelli), M G Ring (Pontypool), B Bowen (South Wales Police, captain), A M Hadley (Cardiff); J Davies (Llanelli), R N Jones (Swansea); S T Jones (Pontypool), I Watkins (Ebbw Vale), D Young (Swansea), R Phillips (Neath), P May (Llanelli), R L Norster (Cardiff), R G Collins (South Wales Police), W P Moriarty (Swansea). Replacements: G M C Webbe (Bridgend), M R Hall (Bridgend), J Griffiths (Llanelli), J Pugh (Neath), K H Phillips (Neath), M A Jones (Neath).

Coleman keeps watch on Carr and McBride

By George Ace

Eddie Coleman, the chairman of Irish selectors, travels north today to take in the Ulster Senior League section one game at Gibson Park between Malone and Ards. And the focus of his attention will be the performances of the respective open-side wing forwards — Carr, playing his third competitive match for Ards since his return from injury, and McBride, his youthful counterpart on the Malone side who figured prominently in the final Irish trial last December.

Coleman's journey is prompted in the main by a lingering doubt over Sexton's fitness. Sexton, Ireland's back-row replacement for next Saturday's game against France in Paris, was carrying a bit of leg trouble last weekend at the training session, and though he is in the Garryowen team that meets Athlone this afternoon, a question mark remains against his name.

And it is crunch day too for Ringland and Anderson, who play their first games since the match against Scotland last month. Both are fairly confident that they will be at the Irish workout tomorrow in Dublin and firing on all cylinders.

Ringland, who sustained a neck injury, plays in the centre for Ballymena at Eaton Park against Terenure College; Anderson, who damaged a medial ligament in his right knee, is in the Dungannon second row against City of Derry, a match the County Tyrone team must win to keep their promotion hopes alive. This match has been switched from Branch Road to the Faughan Valley school ground

The St Mary's College versus Lansdowne match at Lansdowne Road and Blackrock College against Wanderers dominates the Leinster scene, with Lansdowne needing both points to force a league play-off with unbeaten St Mary's. The losers of the other game will accompany De La Salle/Palmerston into section B next season.

At Thomond Park, Limerick, Shannon, without Tucker, McMahon and Robert Irwin in the pack, meet Constitution in the final of the Munster Senior League.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Woosnam cuts loose

Hong Kong (Reuter) — Ian Woosnam atoned for his first round of 79 with a 67, four strokes under par, in the Hong Kong Open yesterday and claimed: "I could still win."

A swing adjustment and different clubs helped the Welsh defending champion to make the cut by two strokes, but he is still 10 strokes behind

Sails unfurl

An initiative to build a national sailing centre has been agreed in principle by the Weymouth borough council which has offered £300,000 towards helping the Royal Yachting Association and Sports Council provide funding.

Clinton in line

Pat Clinton and Joe Kelly, of Glasgow, are to meet for the British flyweight title following Dave McAuley's decision to vacate the championship to concentrate on a World Boxing Association championship challenge.



Johnson: thigh injury

Limping home

Genoa (Reuter) — Ben Johnson, the world 100 meters champion, has not recovered from a thigh injury and will return to Canada tomorrow — missing a confrontation with Linford Christie, of Britain, in Ghent on Wednesday.

Seven heaven

Maggie Kelly, the Olympic silver medal winner, celebrated her return to the England team after a seven-year lay-off with a British 50-metre breaststroke record of 32.40sec at the Arena short-course festival meet in Bonn.

Club calling

Tony Jacklin is to use his Ryder Cup experience to help select six men and women teams of club golfers for a match based on the concept. The Rover Cup four nations' tournament, sponsored by Austin Rover, will involve 500 clubs from Britain for the final against the Americans at La Manga, Spain.

In all corners

Snooker spreads its wings this weekend with matches in Luxembourg, Finland and Northern Ireland. While Tony Meo tackles Jimmy White in Luxembourg, Joe Johnson meets Willie Thorne in Helsinki as part of the Rothmans Matchroom league.

OTHER MATCHES: Today: Antrim: C Thorburn (Can) v T Griffiths (Wal); S Davis (Eng) v N Foulds (Eng). Tomorrow: Henry: Foulds v Thorburn; D Taylor (N Ire) v Griffiths.

Frankham ban

The London Hippodrome has refused permission for the unlicenced boxer, Bobby Frankham, who punched a referee at Wembley in December, to compete tomorrow.

Full house

The Cosford indoor track will have its third full house of the year when Great Britain's athletes take on the United States in the Kodak Classic. The March 12 meeting is already completely sold out. The meeting comes a week after the European indoor championships in Budapest and Britain hope to parade some of their likely medal winners at Cosford.

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